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Agenda item 62
Question of Cyprus

Security Council
Fifty-sixth year

Letter dated 11 December 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

With reference to the letter dated 5 November 2001 of Mr. Jeremy Greenstock, the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (A/56/612-S/2001/1059), as well as to my letter of 5 October 2001 (A/56/451-S/2001/953), I wish to bring to your kind attention the following:

First, let me reiterate that the Greek Cypriot Administration's application to join the European Union (EU) is a breach of the relevant provision of the 1960 Treaty of Guarantee which stipulates that Cyprus cannot participate, "in whole or in part, in any political or economic union with any State whatsoever". Such application constitutes a breach of the Treaty of Guarantee, as well as the legal and political state of affairs established by the 1960 Agreements and the international commitments contained therein.

In Cyprus, there are two distinct sovereign national peoples with their respective States and, since 1963, there is no legitimate authority that represents both parties, which were the co-founders of the 1960 partnership Republic. Therefore, the application for membership in the European Union, which has been made unilaterally by the Greek Cypriot administration on behalf of the whole island, is legally null and void.

Having carefully considered the above-mentioned letter of Mr. Greenstock, the Government of Turkey, as a party to the 1960 Cyprus Treaty of Guarantee, finds it impossible to accept the refusal of the United Kingdom to acknowledge the effects of the clear words of the Treaty in relation to the obligations of Cyprus.

The United Kingdom has chosen to dismiss in one paragraph the carefully researched written Opinion of one of the United Kingdom's most distinguished international lawyers, Professor Maurice Mendelson, who has dealt point by point with the arguments to the contrary advanced in a legal Opinion obtained earlier by the Greek Cypriot Administration, one of which is repeated in the United Kingdom's letter.

01-69419 (E) 131201

By virtue of article 1 of the Treaty, the obligation of Cyprus is "not to participate, in whole or in part, in any political or economic union with any State whatsoever". It is asserted by the United Kingdom that EU membership does not constitute "union with another State". It is true that the European Union is not a State per se, but when an applicant joins EU it does not enter into a union with EU itself, but with each of the member States which constitute the European Union.

Clearly, if Cyprus were to join the European Union she would be participating in both a political and an economic union not only with one State, but with each of the 15 member States. It may be argued that the purpose of article 1 was solely to prevent union with Greece or Turkey, but the article is not drawn as narrowly as that, and in fact refers to any State whatsoever. Even if it were, Greece is one of those 15 States of the European Union.

It may also be argued that since members of the European Union retain their sovereignty, membership of EU does not constitute participation in a union within the meaning of the 1960 Treaty. This is not however sustainable, because the Treaty prohibits union "in whole or in part". The Treaty also prohibits political or economic union, and cannot therefore be taken to apply only to total political unions.

By article 2 of the Treaty, the United Kingdom and Greece bound themselves "to prohibit, so far as concerns them, any activity aimed at promoting, directly or indirectly ... union of the Republic of Cyprus with any other State ...".

The international legal obligations which flow from articles 1 and 2 of the Treaty can be waived only with the consent of all parties to the Treaty, including Turkey. The Government of Turkey is of the view that any pretext aimed at disregarding the restrictions imposed by the Treaty cannot deprive it of its legal force.

Moreover, and quite apart from the provisions of this Treaty, Cyprus is the home of the Turkish Cypriots as well as the Greek Cypriots, and it would be wrong for one of the two peoples to be allowed to take the island into the European Union without the consent of the other. Holding out to the Greek Cypriots the prospect of membership without an internal settlement has made it almost impossible for the two peoples of Cyprus to reach a settlement.

Finally, until a mutually acceptable political solution is freely reached between the two parties in Cyprus, neither side may undertake any action which would have international legal and political consequences for the whole of the island. Therefore, in this context, the membership in the European Union should be taken up within the terms of a political settlement and the balance established between Turkey and Greece with regard to Cyprus by the 1960 Treaties has to be maintained in every respect.

I should be grateful if the text of the present letter would be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 62, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ümit **Pamir**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

United Nations A/56/700–S/2001/1187

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General Assembly
Fifty-sixth session
Agenda items 62, 87 and 89

Question of Cyprus

United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East

Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects

Security Council
Fifty-sixth year

Letter dated 11 December 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter dated 11 December 2001, addressed to you by His Excellency Mr. Aytuğ Plümer, Representative of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (see annex).

I should be grateful if the text of the present letter and its annex would be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 62, 87 and 89, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ümit **Pamir**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

01-69451 (E) 181201

Annex to the letter dated 11 December 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

11 December 2001

I have the honour to refer to the statements made by the representative of the Greek Cypriot administration at the meetings of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee), held on 1 November 2001, under agenda item 87 (United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East), and on 21 November 2001, under agenda item 89 (Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects), which distort historical facts on the Cyprus issue. I will briefly respond to these allegations and put the record straight.

The Greek Cypriot representative referred to the legitimate Turkish intervention in Cyprus in 1974 as an "invasion". It should be emphasized that Turkey intervened in Cyprus, in accordance with her rights and obligations under the 1960 Treaty of Guarantee, after the Greek-Greek Cypriot coup d'état in July 1974 which aimed at annexing the island to Greece. The Turkish Cypriots were subjected to an imminent danger of total annihilation at the hands of the Greek Cypriots and the invading Greek troops.

In this context, the Greek Cypriot representative talked about the "experience of displacement" undergone by the Greek Cypriot side as a result of the Turkish intervention in 1974. The truth is that the issue of displaced persons in Cyprus began in 1963 when one fourth of the Turkish Cypriot population was rendered homeless as a result of the Greek Cypriot armed aggression. Furthermore, in 1974, populations from both sides were displaced in consequence of the Greek coup d'état and the events which followed it. Around 65,000 Turkish Cypriots moved to the North to seek refuge in safer areas.

The question of displaced persons was eventually settled through the Voluntary Exchange of Populations Agreement reached between the two sides at the third round of talks held in Vienna between 31 July and 2 August 1975. The agreement was implemented under the supervision of the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP).

The Greek Cypriot delegate at the Fourth Committee alleged that "the 1974 invasion by Turkey and the forcible division of the island with the creation of a buffer-zone had forced UNFICYP to adjust its mandate". It should be recalled that UNFICYP was established under Security Council resolution 186 (1964) and dispatched to the island in order to prevent the massacre of defenceless Turkish Cypriots by heavily armed Greek Cypriot elements. It should also be recalled that the separation of the two peoples took place in 1963 as a result of the armed aggression by Greek Cypriots and not by the intervention of Turkey in 1974. The creation of the "green line" in Nicosia in December 1963 was necessitated in the face of attacks against defenceless Turkish Cypriots. Similarly, Turkish Cypriots living in the rural areas were forced to flee their villages and seek refuge in enclaves throughout the island. The arrival of UNFICYP in 1964 did not deter Greek Cypriots from carrying out their pre-planned genocide campaign. The carnage did not stop. The Greek Cypriot administration, using its usurped title of the "government of

Cyprus", prevented UNFICYP from carrying out its functions between 1963 and 1974. Peace and stability were brought to the island only after the intervention by Turkey in 1974. Today, the Turkish Cypriot military presence in Northern Cyprus is a deterrent against possible Greek Cypriot aggression.

The Greek Cypriot representative also referred to the situation in the village of Akyar in the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus as a "clear violation of the status quo". I would like to recall that the establishment of a checkpoint at Akyar is a step taken within our own territory in the context of the measures vis-à-vis our relations with UNFICYP after the adoption of resolution 1303 (2000) by the Security Council. The area in question is adjacent to the British Sovereign Base Area and there is no buffer zone in the area. The checkpoint in question is within the TRNC territory. Therefore, there is no question of a change in the status quo.

The process of "healing" in Cyprus, which the Greek Cypriot delegate also referred to, can only begin to take shape if the Greek Cypriot side agrees to a settlement on the basis of two states which will ensure that the title of a future partnership can no longer be usurped by the Greek Cypriot side. A settlement on this basis will respect the sovereign and equal rights of both peoples as well as their security interests. As underlined by President Rauf R. Denktaş in his opening statement at the meeting with the Greek Cypriot leader Mr. Glafcos Clerides on 4 December 2001, the basic requirement in shaping our future is realism which must be solidified with an atmosphere of mutual respect, reconciliation and a working relationship between the two parties. We hope that the international community will urge the Greek Cypriot side to respect the inalienable rights of the Turkish Cypriot people so that a settlement and stability in the island can be attained.

I should be grateful if the present letter could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 62, 87 and 89, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Aytuğ **Plümer**
Representative
Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus

United Nations A/56/701

General Assembly

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Fifty-sixth session
Agenda item 126
Human resources management

Mandatory age of separation

Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

The present report is submitted in accordance with General Assembly resolution 55/258 of 14 June 2001, in which the Assembly requested the Secretary-General "to study the implications of fixing the mandatory age of separation for staff members appointed prior to 1 January 1990 to the current age of sixty-two years and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session". It examines the issues involved, including the potential number of staff members affected, and possible implications with respect to the age profile of the Organization, geographical distribution, gender balance, career development opportunities, the Pension Fund and other related matters.

01-69443 (E) 131201

I. Introduction

1. The present report is submitted pursuant to General Assembly resolution 55/258 of 14 June 2001, in which the Assembly requested the Secretary-General "to study the implications of fixing the mandatory age of separation for staff members appointed prior to 1 January 1990 to the current age of sixty-two years and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session" (sect. XII, para. 2).

2. The present United Nations policy on the mandatory age of separation is contained in regulation 9.5 of the Staff Regulations of the United Nations, which was last amended in 1989 by the General Assembly in its resolution 44/185 D of 19 December 1989. The regulation provides that "staff members shall not be retained in active service beyond the age of sixty years or, if appointed on or after 1 January 1990, beyond the age of sixty-two years. The Secretary-General may, in the interest of the Organization, extend this age limit in exceptional cases."

3. For the sake of clarity, it may be useful at the outset to distinguish between the mandatory age of separation and the normal age of retirement. The mandatory or statutory age of separation is the age at which staff members are normally separated from active service. It is established by each organization of the common system under its respective staff regulations and rules. A related but separate issue is the normal or statutory age of retirement, the age at which a retiree can receive a full retirement benefit, i.e., without the substantial reductions affecting the "early retirement benefit" provided under article 29 of the Regulations of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund (UNJSPF). Under article 1(n) of the Regulations of the Fund, the normal retirement age is currently set at age 60 for participants who joined prior to 1 January 1990 and age 62 for participants who entered or re-entered the Fund on or after 1 January 1990. The statutory age of retirement may be lower, but not higher, than the mandatory age of separation.

II. Background

4. For the United Nations Secretariat, mandatory separation at age 60 was established by the General Assembly on 15 December 1946 by its resolution 82 (I). By its resolution 33/143 of 20 December 1978, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to apply the regulations regarding the age of retirement and not grant extensions beyond the established age of retirement except for the minimum time required to find a suitable replacement. By its resolution 35/210 of 17 December 1980, the General Assembly decided that "the application of the provision of General Assembly resolutions dealing with mandatory retirement at the age of 60 shall not be rigorously applied to locally recruited General Service staff who were already employed by the Organization prior to December 1978 and will have less than 20 years' contributory service in the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund at the age of 60".

5. At its forty-fourth session, by its resolution 44/185 D of 19 December 1989, the General Assembly, taking note of the recommendations of the International Civil Service Commission (ICSC)[1] and the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board,[2] approved an amendment to regulation 9.5 of the Staff Regulations of the United Nations, with effect from 1 January 1990, to provide that the mandatory age of separation for staff members appointed on or after 1 January 1990 should be 62, on

the understanding that age 60 would continue to apply as the mandatory age of separation for those staff members currently in active service. At the same session, by resolution 44/198 of 21 December 1989, the Assembly commended to the attention of the governing bodies of the organizations of the common system the recommendation of ICSC to increase the mandatory age of separation to 62 for staff members entering into service on or after 1 January 1990. In so doing, it recognized "the changing demographic pattern of the workforce of the United Nations common system, as well as the increasing trend in some Member States towards extending the length of service of its workforce," and noted that "in a number of Member States the normal retirement age and the corresponding mandatory age of separation are higher than they are at present in the United Nations common system".

6. In preparing the present report, the views of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund and the International Civil Service Commission were sought on the implications of changing the mandatory age of separation to 62 years.

7. The Chief Executive Officer of UNJSPF responded that raising the mandatory age of separation for United Nations staff members appointed prior to 1 January 1990 would be welcomed by the Fund. He indicated that the Pension Board had been in favour, at least since the early 1980s, of raising the mandatory age of separation to 62 for all staff in all the member organizations of the Fund. In general, the Board considered that any change in the staff regulations or the personnel policy of a Fund member organization that resulted in staff members remaining in active service longer was actuarially favourable for the Pension Fund. A change in the mandatory age of separation for a defined group of United Nations staff would not require any consequent change in the UNJSPF Regulations and Rules. If, following such a change in the United Nations Staff Rules, an affected United Nations participant were to retire after reaching age 60 but before reaching age 62, it would still be treated as normal retirement under the Fund Regulations.

8. The Executive Secretary of ICSC recalled that, in 1989, when the Commission had last considered the subject, it had recommended that the mandatory age of separation for new staff members should be increased to 62. Most members of the Commission had expressed the view that the mandatory age of separation should be increased from 60 to 62 for all staff. However, the Commission had decided that organizations should adopt age 62 as the mandatory age of separation under their staff regulations and staff rules for new staff members as a first step. The Commission went on to note that "as the eventual goal should be to have the same mandatory age applicable to all staff, ... executive heads should demonstrate, to the maximum extent possible, flexibility in considering retention of staff in service until age 62, taking into account their staffing objectives and needs".[3] It was understood that the application of the higher age limit to existing staff would not affect their right to retire at age 60 without a reduction in their pension entitlements.

9. Among the common system organizations, the Food and Agriculture Organization, of the United Nations has had a mandatory age of separation at 62 from the date of its establishment in 1945. The World Food Programme also has age 62 as the mandatory age of separation. The World Intellectual Property Organization has three mandatory separation age limits: 65 for staff members appointed prior to 1 November 1977; 60 for those appointed on or after 1 November 1977 and prior to 1 November 1990; and 62 for staff members appointed on or after 1 November 1990. The other common system organizations apply the same general provisions as

those of the United Nations, with most exercising considerable flexibility in extending staff beyond the mandatory age of separation.

10. The World Tourism Organization and the International Seabed Authority, both members of the Pension Fund, have a mandatory separation age of 62. The World Bank has two mandatory separation age limits: 65 for those who joined on or before 1 July 1974; and 62 for those who joined after 1 July 1974. The latter group may be granted an extension of employment up to age 65 if it is in the interest of the Bank. At the International Monetary Fund, the mandatory age of separation is 65. However, the normal age of retirement, i.e., the age at which a retiree can receive a full retirement benefit, is 62.

11. In the comparator civil service, the United States Congress enacted the Age Discrimination in Employment Act in 1967 to protect the right to employment of workers over 40 years of age. It prohibits companies from considering age in employment decisions, including retirement. The mandatory retirement age for most employees in the federal civil service has also been eliminated. Employees of the United States Foreign Service, however, are covered by the Foreign Service Act of 1980, which requires mandatory retirement at age 65. That Act maintained a mandatory retirement provision of the Foreign Service Act of 1946, but raised the mandatory retirement age from 60 to 65.

III. Profile of staff population potentially affected by a change in the mandatory age of separation

12. As of 30 June 2001, there were 11,244 United Nations staff members serving under the 100 series of the Staff Rules holding an appointment of one year or more. As of that date, the total number of staff members potentially affected by a change in the separation age, i.e., those appointed prior to 1 January 1990, was 5,944. Table 1 provides a profile of this staff population. It is a "closed" population. In practice, the number of staff actually affected will be substantially smaller because of the staff who will retire early or separate from service due to resignation, expiration of contract, disability or death in service.

Table 1
Number and profile of all staff members appointed prior to 1 January 1990

		Breakdown by gender		*Staff on posts subject to geographical distribution (as of 30 June 2001)*			
Category	*Number of staff*	*Female*	*Male*	*Within range*	*Over-represented*	*Under-represented*	*Total*
Professionals and higher category	1 883	692	1 191	852	331	95	1 278
Field Service	296	17	279	-	-	-	-
General Service	3 765	2 191	1 574	-	-	-	-
Total	**5 944**	**2 900**	**3 044**	**852**	**331**	**95**	**1 278**

Profile:

- Two thirds (4,061) are in the General Service and related categories and the Field Service category; one third (1,883) are in the Professional and higher categories.
- 49 per cent are female.
- Average age is 51.1 years.
- 1,278 of the staff in the Professional and higher categories are on posts subject to geographical distribution. Of these, 67 per cent are nationals of Member States that are within range; 26 per cent are from over-represented Member States; and 7 per cent are from underrepresented Member States.

13. As indicated above, the actual number of staff that would be potentially affected would be smaller than the numbers indicated in table 1 on account of early retirements and separations due to resignation, expiration of contracts, disability or death in service. For example, based on recent experience, some 100 staff members may be expected to take early retirement each year. Accordingly, because they represent such a small proportion (some 300 per annum) of the total staff population (11,244 as at 30 June 2001), the implications of a change in the mandatory age of separation for staff members appointed prior to 1 January 1990 would be minimal in respect of the Organization's age profile, geographical distribution, gender balance and career development opportunities. It would impact somewhat positively on the actuarial situation of the Pension Fund.

14. To examine the implications of a change in the mandatory age of separation on a yearly basis, the projected separations of this group of staff during the next five years were studied. During the period 2002-2006, 1,571 (26 per cent) of the 5,944 staff members will reach the current mandatory age of separation at 60. Tables 2 and 2a respectively show the trend for 2002-2006, and the profile of this group of staff.

Table 2
Staff members appointed prior to 1 January 1990 who will reach the mandatory age of separation (60) during the period 2002-2006

	Number of staff due for mandatory separation at age 60 (as at 30 June 2001)						
Category	*2002*	*2003*	*2004*	*2005*	*2006*	***Total***	*Average per year*
Professional and higher categories	114	119	123	120	131	**607**	121
Field Service	8	15	14	10	16	**63**	13
General Service	142	157	175	190	237	**901**	180
Total	**264**	**291**	**312**	**320**	**384**	**1 571**	**314**

Table 2a

Staff members appointed prior to 1 January 1990 who will reach the mandatory age of separation (60) during the period 2002-2006

	Breakdown by gender		*On posts subject to geographical distribution (as of 30 June 2001)*			
Category	*Female*	*Male*	*Within range*	*Over-represented*	*Under-represented*	***Total***
Professionals and higher category	188	419	328	103	18	**449**
Field Service	4	59	-	-	-	-
General Service	530	371	-	-	-	-
Total	**722**	**849**	**328**	**103**	**18**	**449**

Profile:

- Some two thirds (964) are in the General Service and related categories and the Field Service category; some one third (607) are in the Professional and higher categories.
- 46 per cent are female.
- 449 of the staff in the Professional and higher categories are on posts subject to geographical distribution. Of these, 73 per cent are nationals of Member States that are within range; 23 per cent are from over-represented Member States; and 4 per cent are from underrepresented Member States.

Scenario assumptions

15. As it is not possible to assess with precision the extent to which staff appointed prior to 1 January 1990 would exercise the option to separate at 62, a number of scenarios have been developed to estimate the potential consequences. For the purposes of the present analysis, it has been assumed that, in view of their acquired rights, this group would retain the right to retire at 60, with no penalty with respect to accrued benefits.

16. Table 3 and figure 1 present a projection of the impact on the annual number of separations of the staff population under study during the period 2002-2006. They illustrate the situation under the present separation policy at age 60 and under four different scenarios under a mandatory separation age of 62:

Scenario 1: two thirds of staff due for mandatory separation at age 60 leave as scheduled; the remaining one third opt to separate at age 62 two years later.

Scenario 2: one half of staff due for mandatory separation at age 60 leave as scheduled; the remaining one half opt to separate at age 62 two years later.

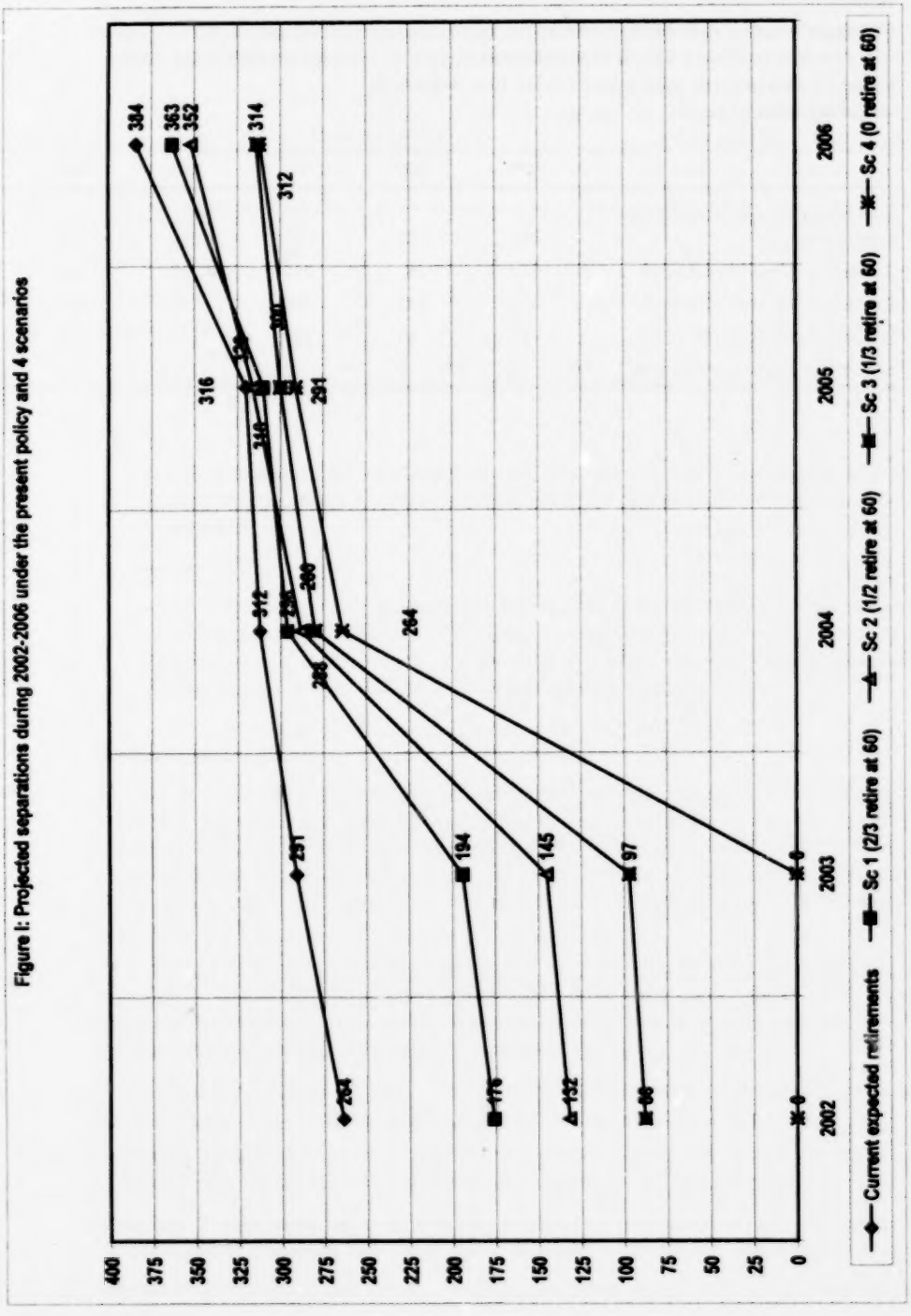
Scenario 3: one third of staff due for mandatory separation at age 60 leave as scheduled; the remaining two thirds opt to separate at age 62 two years later.

Scenario 4: All staff due for mandatory separation at age 60 opt to separate at age 62.

Table 3
Projected separations of staff members appointed prior to 1 January 1990 who will reach mandatory age of separation at age 60 during the period 2002-2006 based on the present policy and under four scenarios (all categories of staff)

	2002	*2003*	*2004*	*2005*	*2006*	***Total***
Staff retiring at age 60 under the present policy	264	291	312	320	384	1 571
Scenario 1: 2/3 at 60; 1/3 at 62	176	194	296	310	363	1 339
Scenario 2: 1/2 at 60; 1/2 at 62	132	145	288	316	352	1 233
Scenario 3: 1/3 at 60; 2/3 at 62	88	97	280	300	314	1 079
Scenario 4: all opt to retire at 62	0	0	264	291	312	867

Figure I: Projected separations during 2002-2006 under the present policy and 4 scenarios



17. As indicated in paragraphs 12 and 13 above, in each scenario, the actual numbers will be considerably lower than the numbers shown in table 3 because of the effects of separations due to early retirement, resignation, expiration of contract, disability and death in service. As illustrated in figure 1, the immediate impact of a change in the mandatory separation age would be felt during the first two years of implementation. From the third year onwards, the annual number of mandatory separations among this group of staff would level out. The magnitude of the impact would be in direct proportion to the actual number of staff who would opt to retire at age 62 instead of 60. Scenario 1 is the most likely scenario in the light of the fact that two thirds of staff members in the group under consideration are in the General Service and related categories and the Field Service category. Staff in those categories tend to remain in service for extended periods and are likely to separate when they have reached 30 years of contributory service, after which the accumulation rate drops from 2 per cent to 1 per cent per year for participants who entered the Fund prior to 1 January 1983, and the reduction rate for an early retirement benefit is only 1 per cent per year.

Average age of the Secretariat

18. As at 30 June 2001, the average age of all Secretariat staff was 45.6 years, a decrease of four months over the average age in 2000. The average age of the staff appointed prior to 1 January 1990 is 51.1 years. During the period 2002-2006, the average number of staff appointed prior to 1 January 1990 who will reach the mandatory age of separation each year is 314. This represents approximately 2.7 per cent of all Secretariat personnel holding an appointment of one year or more under the 100 series of the Staff Rules, as at 30 June 2001. In this light, a deferment in the mandatory age of separation by two years would increase slightly the number of staff in the over-50 age group until 2005 (increasing the group's share in the age distribution by 1 per cent to 2 per cent in the first two years and by 0.1 per cent to 0.2 per cent subsequently); after that, the impact would be negligible. Accordingly, the impact on average staff age would be minimal.

19. Vacancies created from non-retirement sources such as staff turnover from expiration of contracts and resignations offer more significant opportunities for injecting "new blood" into the Organization than those arising from mandatory separations. As at 30 June 2001, there were 2,461 vacant posts Secretariat-wide, both under the regular budget and extrabudgetary, representing a vacancy rate of 14 per cent based on the total number of allotted posts.

20. In addition, a series of measures is being taken in the context of the Secretary-General's human resources management reform programme with a view to rejuvenating the Secretariat from two perspectives. Human resources policies are being revised to support the rejuvenation of staff in terms of skills, competencies and variety of experience, and measures are being introduced to attract, develop and retain young professionals, including increasing the number of competitive entry examinations, expanded orientation, development and mentoring programmes, and managed mobility systems to promote multi-skilling and broader career paths.

Geographical distribution

21. As shown in table 2a, 103 of the staff members in the Professional and higher categories on posts subject to geographical distribution are from over-represented

Member States. They represent 17 per cent of all staff in the Professional and higher categories due for mandatory separation at age 60 during the period 2002-2006, based on figures as at 30 June 2001. Given the numbers involved, the impact of a change in the mandatory age of separation on the geographical distribution would be small compared to the proactive measures already being implemented under the recruitment plan. For example, as of 30 June 2001, there are 231 vacancies out of the 2,642 posts subject to geographical distribution, or a vacancy rate of 8.7 per cent. There is therefore ample opportunity to address lack of representation and under-representation, even if all of the above 103 staff members remained in service until age 62. It may be noted that changes in the representation status of a Member State may result from several factors: the appointment or separation of staff; adjustments of the desirable range because of an increase or decrease in the number of posts subject to geographical distribution; changes in the number of Member States; changes in the scale of assessments; changes in the population of Member States; and changes in the status of individual staff members (such as departure on secondment, special leave without pay, return from secondment or special leave, or change of nationality).

Gender balance

22. Some 722 (46 per cent) of staff members in all categories due for mandatory separation at age 60 during 2002-2006 are female. Fixing the mandatory age of separation at age 62 for all staff could delay some opportunities to improve gender balance, particularly in the Professional and higher categories. This effect would be noticeable during the initial two years of implementation and diminish thereafter. In terms of numbers, however, the Organization's recruitment efforts in respect of vacancies from sources other than mandatory separation contribute more significantly to the achievement of the Organization's goals with regard to gender.

Career development

23. A change in the mandatory age of separation could temporarily delay some opportunities for promotion of serving staff members as a result of some senior staff remaining in service longer. However, in view of the small number of staff members who are expected to retire annually during the next five years in the subject group as a proportion of the overall staff population, the impact of delayed promotion on the career of remaining staff members would be modest. Opportunities for promotion as a result of mandatory separations are relatively low compared to those resulting from staff mobility, vacancies arising from resignation and expiration of contracts, and reclassification of posts.

IV. Other considerations

Employment of retirees and retention of staff members beyond the mandatory age of separation

24. In order to meet its needs, the Organization employs retirees and retains in service staff members beyond the mandatory age of separation. During the period 1996-1999, an average of 252 retirees were hired annually. Some 48.8 per cent of those retirees were in the 60-65 age group, indicating that about half of them were engaged within months to a few years of separating from the Organization. From

1998 to 2001, an annual average of 88 staff members were retained in service beyond the mandatory age of separation. A change in the mandatory age of separation could potentially minimize the need for the employment of retirees and the retention in service of staff members beyond the mandatory age of separation, at least for the initial two years of its implementation. This aspect of such a change could be particularly advantageous in respect of language services, where there are shortages of certain language skills and language combinations (see A/56/277).

Demographic changes

25. Since the General Assembly's decision in 1946 establishing the mandatory separation age at 60 years, a number of demographic changes have taken place in the United Nations workforce, reflective of the changes taking place in society in general. As life expectancy has considerably increased, it has become a normal expectation for today's workers to be able to continue to work beyond age 60 without loss of productivity. At the same time, the number of women entering the workforce has grown significantly. In some cases their careers have developed more slowly owing to family responsibilities and women frequently wish to continue working, or to re-enter the workforce once their children have grown. The staff of the Organization, particularly those appointed shortly before 1990, may find the option to remain in active service until age 62 attractive with a view to increasing the number of years of contributory service to the Pension Fund so as to maximize retirement benefits.

Acquired rights

26. In discussing the possible extension of the mandatory age of separation in the Staff-Management Coordination Committee, staff representatives placed emphasis on the issue of acquired rights of staff recruited before 1 January 1990, particularly the right to early retirement at 55 years of age and the option to continue to separate at age 60 with a full retirement benefit. The protection of acquired rights is provided under staff regulation 12.1, which states that the Staff Regulations may be supplemented or amended by the General Assembly, without prejudice to the acquired rights of staff members.

27. As indicated above, it is a reasonable expectation that staff members from the above population would be concerned about their acquired right to retire at age 60. However, it can also be reasonably expected that some of them would like to have the option to remain in active service until the age of 62. The option may be particularly attractive to those who were appointed shortly before 1 January 1990 and who therefore might wish to increase their years of UNJSPF contributory service in order to maximize the accrual of retirement benefits. Others would be interested in having such an option for a number of reasons: the majority of persons of their age outside of the United Nations are still employed, family obligations, and enjoyment of professional and social interaction. Protecting acquired rights while providing an option to remain longer in active service should contribute positively to staff morale.

V. Conclusion

28. In view of the numbers involved, fixing the mandatory age of separation for staff members appointed prior to 1 January 1990 at the current age of 62 years

would have a minimal impact in respect of the age profile of the Organization, geographical distribution, gender balance and career development opportunities. Vacancies arising from sources other than mandatory separation offer better opportunities for attaining the Organization's goals in the above areas. A change in the mandatory age of separation would have a somewhat positive impact on the actuarial situation of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund, especially if the other common system organizations would adopt the same policy. It would also have a positive impact on staff morale in view of the fact that all staff members would be treated equally, regardless of their date of entrance on duty, provided that their acquired rights are respected.

29. In the event that the General Assembly decides to fix the mandatory age of separation for staff members appointed prior to 1 January 1990 at the age of 62 years, a draft amendment to regulation 9.5 of the Staff Regulations of the United Nations is presented in the annex to the present report. Should the Assembly decide to approve the draft amendment, the Secretary-General would propose that the effective date be set three months after the date of adoption of the decision, in order to allow for appropriate human resources planning.

Notes

[1] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 30* (A/44/30), vol. I, para. 58.

[2] Ibid., *Supplement No. 9* (A/44/9), annex XIII, draft resolution, sect. I, para. (o).

[3] Ibid., *Supplement No. 30* (A/44/30), vol. I, para. 56.

Annex

Proposed amendment to regulation 9.5

Mandatory age of separation

"Staff members shall not be retained in active service beyond the age of sixty-two years, without prejudice to the right of staff members appointed before 1 January 1990 to separate at age sixty. The Secretary-General may, in the interest of the Organization, extend the age limit of sixty-two years in exceptional cases."

Explanations

1. The first sentence would implement an intent to raise the mandatory age of separation to 62, while explicitly protecting the right of staff previously subject to age 60 separation to opt for separation at that age. This would also be consistent with the provisions on acquired rights under staff regulation 12.1 and article 49(b) of the regulations of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund.

2. The reference to 62 years in the second sentence would clarify that the text refers to the new mandatory age of separation.

United Nations A/56/702

General Assembly

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Fifty-sixth session
Agenda item 166
Measures to eliminate international terrorism

Note verbale dated 19 November 2001 from the Permanent Mission of San Marino to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of San Marino to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to transmit the decision of the Cabinet of Ministers (Congresso di Stato) of the Republic of San Marino on measures to monitor and fight the financing of international terrorism.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of San Marino to the United Nations is pleased to enclose a translation of the attached decision (see annex).

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of San Marino to the United Nations would appreciate if the Secretary-General could kindly circulate this communiqué and its annex to all States Members and observers of the United Nations under agenda item 166 of the General Assembly.

01-69712 (E) 141201

Annex to the note verbale dated 19 November 2001 from the Permanent Mission of San Marino to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Measures to monitor and fight the financing of international terrorism

The Cabinet of Ministers,

Considering the need to strengthen international cooperation against terrorism and to safeguard the safety of the Republic and the solidity of the economic and financial system of San Marino, and adopting measures to freeze capital or other financial resources possibly deposited in the banking and financial system by individuals linked to persons or organizations suspected of international terrorist activities,

Recalling Security Council resolutions 1267 (1999), 1333 (2000) and 1373 (2001),

Considering the extraordinary need and urgency to adopt and strengthen any instruments aimed at fighting the financing of international terrorism,

1. *Invites* the inspectors for credit and currency to continue transmitting to the banking and financial system the lists of the names of persons and organizations suspected of international terrorist activities drafted by the monitoring organs and police of other countries or international organizations;

2. *Orders* all banks and financial groups to proceed to freeze immediately all capital and other resources or properties deposited with them and proceeds from any other suspicious operation, directly or indirectly attributable to persons included on the above-mentioned lists, and to inform immediately the inspectors for credit and currency;

3. *Mandates* the inspectors for credit and currency to inform the financial intermediaries under observance of the decisions contained in the present text, to establish any further measures they deem to be necessary for the implementation thereof and to decide, as necessary, on the administrative sanctions as in article 9 of Bill No. 123 of 15 December 1998 on the campaign against money-laundering.

(*Signed*) Fiorenzo **Stolfi**
Minister for Internal Affairs

United Nations A/56/703–S/2001/1192

General Assembly
Security Council

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13 December 2001

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General Assembly
Fifty-sixth session
Agenda items 41, 42 and 166

Security Council
Fifty-sixth year

Question of Palestine

The situation in the Middle East

Measures to eliminate international terrorism

Letter dated 12 December 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Qatar to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the following documents of the tenth extraordinary session of Foreign Ministers of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, held at Doha on 10 December 2001:

1. Text of the statement of His Highness Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al-Thani, Emir of the State of Qatar, Chairman of the Ninth Islamic Summit Conference, at the opening of the session (annex I);

2. Text of the final communiqué (annex II).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its annexes circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 41, 42 and 166, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Nassir Abdulaziz **Al-Nasser**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

01-70307 (E) 020102

Annexes to the letter dated 12 December 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Qatar to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Annex I

[Original: Arabic]

Statement by His Highness Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al-Thani, Emir of the State of Qatar, at the opening of the Tenth Extraordinary Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers

Doha, 25 Ramadan 1422, corresponding to 10 December 2001

In the name of God, the Merciful, the Compassionate

Praise be to God, and may He bless the Prophet, his family and his followers and grant them salvation.

Your Highnesses and Excellencies,
Mr. Secretary-General,
Dear Brothers,

I welcome you to Doha and I pray to Almighty God to inspire us with the wisdom and sound judgement that will enable this meeting, which is set against grave and tragic conditions for the Palestinians, to adopt tangible decisions that may help them regain their inalienable national rights.

We wish indeed that His Excellency President Yasser Arafat could have joined us in this meeting to give us a clear picture of the grave developments in the occupied Palestinian territories and the constant Israeli aggression against the Palestinian people. However, he is unable to attend because of circumstances well known to us all, stemming from Israel's relentless measures and practices. Yet despite this, he is present with us in his thoughts and his enlightened participation, which impart to his people's unremitting struggle perseverance and steadfastness.

In fact, as I was contemplating the points of this speech, I went over the evolution of the peace process during the last year or more and it became perfectly clear to me that from the outset the fate, the outstanding character and indeed the distinction of the Ninth Islamic Summit resided in the fact that it coincided with the Al-Aqsa intifadah. It is as if something was telling the leaders and peoples of the Muslim world: never forget, not even for an instant, that your overriding cause relates to the Al-Aqsa Mosque in Palestine and the State of Palestine.

Thus we all agree that this meeting must not be a forum for making speeches. It is our duty to make it a genuine test of our collective will and our historic responsibility regarding the Palestinian issue, in word and in deed alike.

The situation, as we know, is dangerous for the Palestinians and extremely dangerous for the world, especially the Arab and Islamic world. Indeed, what is left after all that has been done by the occupying forces: committing mass killings, imposing blockades and isolation, starving the population, bulldozing crops, destroying the infrastructure, violating what is most sacred, denying access to the Al-Aqsa Mosque for prayer and levelling open and undisguised threats against the symbols of Palestinian authority?

Dear Brothers,

There is no question that we are at a crossroads, and by "we" I do not mean Arabs and Muslims only, but the international community as a whole. Either we strengthen our determination and our trust in international legitimacy, something that is no longer easy to achieve or to accept in the context of the flagrant violations of justice and right that we witness daily and the highly suspect absence and reluctance of the mechanisms of that legitimacy; or, God forbid, we face the turn in the road that looms on the horizon, which means shirking all those international commitments and covenants and unleashing a spiral of violence and bloodshed. All will then suffer the consequences and bear the responsibility for the dangers inherent in that situation, which will not only blow away Palestinians and Israelis alike, but may well set ablaze the extremely sensitive Middle East region.

It is therefore both reasonable and wise to opt for the first path, for though difficult, it is the safer and more secure. It depends on two basic conditions:

The first condition, which I consider essential, beneficial and easy to realize, is that those who are on intimate terms with Israel and at the same time have vital interests in the Middle East should shoulder their responsibilities.

They must become convinced that the Palestinian people must inevitably obtain all their internationally recognized rights. They must also become convinced that resisting an occupying force is legitimate self-defence.

More than at any time in the past, it is essential today that the international community play the desired role in putting an end to the Israeli occupation of Arab territories and arriving at a comprehensive, lasting settlement of the dispute in the Middle East based on the implementation of the relevant United Nations resolutions. This implies enabling the Palestinian people to exercise its right of self-determination and establishing an independent State of Palestine with Al-Quds Al-Sharif as its capital. This, in my estimation, is the safety valve for peace and stability and for defusing tension in the region. It means forcing Israel to comply with international law; inducing it to desist from its aggressive policies; ending its occupation of Arab lands; dismantling Israeli settlements; recognizing the right of refugees to return to their homes; putting an end to attempts to judaize East Jerusalem and change its architectural, cultural and demographic features, as required by international instruments, in particular the fourth Geneva Convention (1949); ending its occupation of the Syrian Golan; and completing the full and genuine withdrawal of its forces from Lebanese territory in accordance with the United Nations resolutions, especially Security Council resolutions 242, 328 and 425.

The second condition, my Brothers, relates to our role as leaders and peoples in dealing with this complex situation.

Our meeting today has a historic responsibility to start its work from where our previous efforts to support legitimate Palestinian rights left off, adopting a firm and resolute stand on the provision of international protection for the Palestinian people; establishing, in cooperation with the international community, specific mechanisms to halt the continuous Israeli attacks; ensuring that a definitive solution is reached in the occupied territories by committing Israel to serious measures; and reaffirming that peace can be achieved only through the implementation of the relevant accords, the return of lands and respect for legitimate rights.

In this context, I propose to you that a committee be set up at the ministerial level to undertake the task of following up this pressing issue on an urgent basis. The committee would seek to find an Islamic mechanism for action to stop the deterioration of the situation, revive the peace process and resume negotiations on the basis of international legitimacy and the related binding resolutions, in cooperation with the United Nations and all international peace-loving forces that eagerly desire security and stability in the region.

Dear Brothers,

In our belief that peace is an irrevocable strategic choice, we have fully cooperated with all international efforts, including the Mitchell committee recommendations and the Tenet understandings, which we accepted as a comprehensive package. We also expressed our satisfaction with the position declared by President George Bush, who spoke of the establishment of an independent Palestinian State within the framework of a definitive, just and comprehensive resolution of the conflict. We further welcomed the ideas and principles expressed by Secretary of State Colin Powell, who stressed the need to end Israeli occupation of Arab territories and at the same time announced the intention of the United States Administration to start making effective moves to stop the deterioration and revive the peace process.

We must restore the optimism that prevailed after the announcement of those positive American positions, an optimism which, most regrettably, was promptly dissipated by the grave developments that took place in the Palestinian territories. We therefore call upon the United States of America and the international community to take action to put an immediate end to an Israeli policy that can only destroy the last available opportunity to bring peace to our region.

Your Highnesses and Excellencies,
Dear Brothers,

The task before us is momentous, but it can be realized. We must shoulder this responsibility with all the determination, potential and patience we have. Restoring the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people is our foremost priority. We are confident that our Islamic Ummah is capable of achieving this.

May God grant all of us success in fulfilling our aspirations and bringing about a better future for our peoples and our Ummah. God is with us in our intention and will lead us along the right path.

May peace and the mercy and blessings of God be upon you.

Annex II

[Original: Arabic and English]

Final communiqué of the Tenth Extraordinary Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers on the Grave Situation in the Palestinian Territories

Doha — State of Qatar, 25 Ramadan 1422H (10 December 2001)

At the kind invitation of His Highness Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al-Thani, Emir of the State of Qatar and Chairman of the Ninth Islamic Summit Conference, the Tenth Extraordinary Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers was held on 25 Ramadan 1422H (10 December 2001) in Doha, State of Qatar, to consider the grave situation prevailing in Palestine as a result of persistent and escalating Israeli aggression against the Palestinian people.

The Conference expressed its utmost appreciation to His Highness Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al-Thani and the Government and people of the State of Qatar for their gracious invitation and the opportunity it provided for a thorough and in-depth examination of the grave situation currently prevailing in Palestine.

The Conference listened to the important speech delivered by His Highness Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al-Thani, as well as the speech delivered on behalf of President Yasser Arafat. It took cognizance of the Secretary General's report on the serious developments prevailing in Palestine. The Conference unanimously decided to consider the speech of His Highness as an official document of the Conference.

The Conference elected its Bureau as follows:

– State of Qatar	Chairman
– Islamic Republic of Pakistan]	
– Republic of Senegal]	Vice-Chairmen
– State of Palestine]	
– Republic of Mali	Rapporteur

After exhaustive discussions and deliberations between Their Excellencies the Ministers and the heads of delegations, the Extraordinary Session of the Conference of Foreign Ministers of the OIC Member States on the grave situation prevailing in Palestine and the entire region, reached the following decisions:

- The Conference reiterates its commitment to all the previous resolutions adopted by the Islamic conferences and meetings relevant to the question of Palestine and Al-Quds Al-Sharif and the Arab-Israeli conflict.

- The Conference commends and takes pride in the Palestinian people's steadfastness and heroic Intifadah against the aggression of the Israeli occupation forces in order to achieve its legitimate rights. It affirms its continued political, material and moral support and assistance to counter the occupation, and reaffirms that the Israeli occupation is indeed the prime cause behind the deterioration and gravity of the situation in the region.

- The Conference condemns the Israeli occupation and bombardment of cities, villages, camps and centres of the Palestinian National Authority, and Israel's use of F-16 Fighter Planes and U.S. made Apache helicopter gun ships. The Conference holds Israel fully responsible for its aggression and consequences, considering it a blatant violation of the Palestinian human rights and a clear transgression of all covenants, conventions and International Law, particularly the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949. Furthermore, the Conference strongly condemns Israel's use of force in all forms, and warns it against the consequences of blackmailing and persistence in these danger-laden policies against the Palestinian people, their national institutions and legitimate elected leadership. It warns against Israel's aborted and rejected attempts to sabotage Palestinian national unity and considers that the totality of the dangerous Israeli policies aims at disrupting security and stability in the entire region. The Conference calls on all the Palestinian people to rally around its National Authority under the leadership of President Yasser Arafat.

- The Conference requests the UN Security Council, in its capacity as the international body chiefly responsible for the maintenance and

restoration of international security and peace, to shoulder its responsibilities in ensuring an immediate end to the Israeli aggression. It invites the Security Council to expeditiously dispatch international observers to ensure the necessary international protection for the Palestinian people and to oversee the institution and maintenance of security in conformity with the international resolutions, agreements and recommendations already agreed in the framework of the Peace-Process.

- The Conference calls on the United States of America to actuate the positive elements contained in its vision on solving the Palestinian question and the Arab-Israeli conflict, which rests on the UN Security Council resolutions 232 and 348 that provide for ending the Israeli occupation and halting the settlements in the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories, and the establishment of independent Palestinian State with Al-Quds Al-Sharif as its capital. It also calls on the U.S. Administration to actually implement the provisions of the aforementioned vision in accordance with specific mechanism and timetable whereby deeds would be fully synchronized with words.

- The Conference calls upon the international community, the United Nations and particularly the United States of America, the Russian Federation and the European Union, to intervene immediately to put an end to the Israeli aggression and prevent the Israeli Government from persisting with its aggressive designs aimed at undermining the Palestinian National Authority, spreading chaos and disorder and reoccupying the already liberated Palestinian territories in order to abort the agreements and sabotage the very foundations of the peace process.

- The Conference rejects establishing any link between terrorism and the right of the Palestinian, Lebanese and Syrian peoples, to resist Israeli aggression and occupation, considered as a legitimate right ensured by international laws and conventions. It condemns the contention that the Israeli aggression is in self-defence and rejects the policies of unlimited support extended to Israel. The Conference condemns State terrorism practised by Israel in the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories.

- The Conference reiterates that the current policies of the Israeli Government threaten and jeopardize the Middle East peace process.

- The Conference recommends to the Governments of the OIC member States and the Islamic organizations, institutions and peoples to extend multifaceted assistance to the Palestinian National Authority in such a way as to enable it to fulfil its urgent obligations.

- The Conference requests the Chairman of the Summit to constitute a ministerial level Committee composed of: State of Qatar as Chairman, and Republic of Mali, Malaysia, Syrian Arab Republic, Kingdom of Morocco, Sultanate of Oman and the Republic of Senegal as well as the OIC Secretary General as members, with a view to carry out urgent contacts with the Permanent Member States of the UN Security Council, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the Presidency of the European Union and the Vatican. The objectives of this Committee will be to explain the plight and suffering of the Palestinian people and the impact of the Israeli aggression on the situation in the region. The Committee would set up an Islamic working mechanism aimed at projecting the unity of the Islamic position and determination to mobilize every possible support and assistance to this just cause in accordance with the following basis:

  1. Establishing the independent Palestinian State with Al-Quds Al-Sharif as its capital.

  2. Rejecting the judaization of Al-Quds Al-Sharif.

  3. Reaffirming the Palestinian refugees' right to repatriation in accordance with UN General Assembly resolution 194 (III) of 11 December 1948.

  4. Putting an immediate end to the Israeli aggression and the halt of the schemes that seek to undermine the Palestinian Authority, and the non-imposition of any restrictions on the movements of the officials and individuals of the Palestinian National Authority or harassing them, and to consider any such pursuits as terrorism, the

consequences and reactions of which Israel shall be held solely responsible.

5. Lifting the blockade and the closure imposed on the Palestinian people, as well as an immediate withdrawal of the Israeli forces from the areas under the Palestinian Authority which Israel had reoccupied, and also the withdrawal from all the occupied Arab territories to the 4th of June 1967 line, including Al-Quds Al-Sharif, the Golan, as well as the withdrawal from the remaining parts of Southern Lebanon.

6. Putting an end to the crimes of political and other assassinations, collective sanctions and the oppressive practices and measures against the Palestinian people, and to consider them as a blatant violation of the principles of international law.

7. Halting and removing the Israeli settlements which are considered as a violation of the rights of the Palestinian people to their land and a violation of the resolutions of the international legitimacy which view these settlements as illegal with no validity or obligations whatsoever in accordance with UN Security Council resolution 465 (1980).

8. Lifting immediately the sieges and blockades imposed on all Palestinian areas, including the city of Al-Quds.

9. Releasing the Palestinian and Arab detainees from the Israeli prisons.

10. Dispatching international observers to protect the Palestinian people against the Israeli brutal aggression and to supervise the implementation of any agreement reached.

11. Releasing the funds owned by the Palestinian people and its National Authority which have been impounded by the Israeli occupation authorities and immediately removing all restrictions imposed on the movement of Palestinian individuals and goods.

12. Requesting the international community to seek the resumption of the peace process in accordance with the foundations on which they were based and at the point where they had stopped, and establishing a specific mechanism and timetable for the implementation of the reports, the agreements and the understandings reached by the Palestinian and the Israeli sides.

13. Rejecting the lists that characterize some Islamic countries, the Palestinian and Lebanese resistance movements as terrorists. The Conference considers that such lists have no legal effect and obstructs the efforts exerted to combat international terrorism.

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General Assembly

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Fifty-sixth session
Agenda items 59 and 60

Strengthening of the United Nations system

Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly

Letter dated 10 December 2001 from the Permanent Representative of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly

We should like to inform you that, in its commitment to improving the working procedures of the General Assembly and rationalizing its agenda, my country decided that, with effect from the fifty-third session of the General Assembly, the item entitled "Elimination of coercive measures as a means of political and economic compulsion" should be considered every two years. Accordingly, the item was last considered at the fifty-fifth session of the General Assembly and was to have been included in the agenda of the fifty-seventh session in 2002.

On consulting General Assembly resolution 55/285 of 7 September 2001, entitled "Revitalization of the General Assembly; improving the efficiency of the General Assembly", we noted that in paragraph 11 of the annex to the resolution it is stated that the item in question will continue to be considered biennially, at even-numbered sessions. This would mean that the item would not be discussed at the next session, as was decided by the General Assembly last year.

While I assure you that my country remains committed to its position that the item should be considered every two years, the importance of its subject matter to us in particular and to the other States Members of the United Nations that approved the resolution adopted under the item at the fifty-fifth session of the General Assembly by an overwhelming majority requires me to inform you that my country wishes to adhere to the decision of the General Assembly in its resolution 55/6 of 26 October 2000 to include the item in the agenda of its fifty-seventh session and that we support its subsequent consideration every two years at odd-numbered sessions of the General Assembly.

I request you to have this letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly.

(*Signed*) Abuzed Omar **Dorda**
Permanent Representative

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Programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003

The situation in Central America: procedures for the establishment of a firm and lasting peace and progress in fashioning a region of peace, freedom, democracy and development

United Nations Verification Mission in Guatemala

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/56/L.42

Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has considered the statement submitted by the Secretary-General (A/C.5/56/26) in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly on the budget implications of draft resolution A/55/L.42 on the United Nations Verification Mission in Guatemala (MINUGUA).

2. The Committee recalls that the Secretary-General, in his report of 14 September 2000 (A/55/389), presented a plan for gradually scaling down MINUGUA's presence in Guatemala until operations concluded in 2003. In his latest report of 21 September 2001 (A/56/391), the Secretary-General indicated that a first reduction was made in December 2000, involving a 39 per cent cut in the Mission's budget and the reconfiguration of its presence in the country with 46 per cent fewer staff. The number of regional offices was reduced from eight to six and the subregional offices from five to four. In the case of the mobile teams, only one of the five envisaged for 2001 remained in operation, with staff reassigned into the corresponding regional office or sub-office (see paras. 29 and 30).

3. The Advisory Committee notes, however, the indication made as to the impact of the reduction on the Mission's territorial deployment, which has affected its operational capacity, forcing it to set priorities for its activities, particularly as regards verification and institution building. The Secretary-General, in view of the concern expressed by various sectors as to further scaling down MINUGUA's field presence, has proposed that the reduction for 2002 should not affect or alter the

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territorial deployment planned for 2001 and that all mobile teams should be put into operation, given the overall situation of the peace process. The regional offices will be reinforced through redeployment of resources from headquarters and functions assigned to the field coordinator will be reassumed by the Deputy Head of the Mission (A/56/931, paras. 31 and 33). The Committee notes that the preamble of draft resolution A/56/L.42 underlines the fact that the new schedule for implementation of the substantive aspects of the peace agreements has been changed from 2000 until the end of 2004.

4. Within this background, the estimated requirements of the Secretary-General, which would arise under section 3, Political affairs, of the programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003 (A/56/6 (Sect. 3)), for the extension of the mandate of MINUGUA from 1 January to 31 December 2002 amount to $14,755,100 (A/C.5/56/26, para. 10 and annex I.A).

5. The Committee notes from paragraph 11 and annex V of the statement that, of the total appropriation of $43,233,400 approved by the General Assembly for the period from 1 January 2000 to 31 December 2001, unaudited expenditures are estimated at $39,871,600, resulting in an unencumbered balance of $3,361,800.

6. Paragraph 7 of the Secretary-General's statement indicates that the MINUGUA headquarters will be restructured around four substantive areas in 2002 (human rights; socio-economic affairs, resettlement and integration; and public security and armed forces) and that the number of police and military observers will remain the same in 2002, after the reduction during 2001 from 51 to 10 and 20 to 4, respectively.

7. The proposed staffing component, which comprises a total of 271 posts, includes 69 international (48 Professional, 17 General Service and 4 Field Service), 139 local-level staff and 63 United Nations Volunteers. A decrease of 6 professional and 3 field service positions is partially offset by an increase of 3 local-level General Service staff. Vacancy factors of 5 and 3 per cent for international and local staff, respectively, are applied in estimating staff costs. The proposed staffing by organizational unit for 2002 is contained in annex IV of the statement.

8. The estimated operational costs for MINUGUA amount to $2,432,200 for 2002, including non-recurrent costs of $246,800, as compared to the appropriated amount of $7.394,400 for the biennium 2000-2001. Reductions are shown under all objects of expenditure in view of the contraction compared to the biennium 2000-2001.

9. The Advisory Committee notes the information contained in annex III on the use of extrabudgetary resources and the Trust Fund for the Guatemala Peace Process. Total expenditure for the biennium 2000-2001, through the end of 2001, is estimated at $3,727,200 for projects indicated therein. Furthermore, it is anticipated that many of these projects will continue in 2002 and that, based on contributions already made or under negotiation, an estimated amount of $2,342,100 will be used in 2002.

10. The Advisory Committee notes that, in anticipation of the Mission's eventual withdrawal, several projects relating to the peace agenda are gradually being transferred from the Trust Fund to the inter-agency system and that a transition group is being set up to establish policy guidelines for the projects being transferred to the agencies and programmes, hence making the transfer process more coherent

(see A/56/391, paras. 39-41). The Committee welcomes this development. Moreover, the Committee was further informed that consultations, which include the Department of Political Affairs, MINUGUA, interested States and the inter-agency system, have been initiated with the objective of identifying and generating future additional resources to support the consolidation of the peace-building process, as called upon in resolution 55/177 and reiterated in draft resolution A/56/L.42. **The Advisory Committee requests the Secretary-General to report on this matter in the context of his next presentation on MINUGA.**

11. **Should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/56/L.42, additional requirements of $14,755,100 would arise for 2002, which would be charged against the provision of $93,691,600 (before recosting) for special political missions requested in section 3, Political affairs, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003.**

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Agenda item 166
Measures to eliminate international terrorism

Security Council
Fifty-sixth year

Letter dated 13 December 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

As you are aware, following the devastating carnage in Jerusalem and Haifa on 1 and 2 December 2001, in which 26 Israelis were killed and over 200 injured, the world's attention focused on the Palestinian leadership in an effort to compel it to take the actions it has long resisted taking, namely the arrest of known terrorists and the dismantling of terrorist infrastructure flourishing in its territory.

More than 10 days later, I regret to inform you that the actions of the Palestinian leadership have been wholly inadequate and the campaign of terror has continued virtually unabated. In the past week, 10 Israelis have been killed and approximately 75 others have been wounded in a number of attacks to which I would like to draw your attention.

On Wednesday, 5 December, a Palestinian terrorist blew himself up on a side street adjacent to the David's Citadel Hotel in Jerusalem. The bomb, which exploded prematurely just before 7.30 a.m. (local time), was packed with nails and bolts to inflict maximum injury to innocent bystanders. Two people at a nearby bus stop were injured in the attack and nine others were treated for shock. Islamic Jihad claimed responsibility for the attack.

Four days later, on Sunday, 9 December, more than 40 civilians were wounded when a Palestinian suicide terrorist detonated his charges at approximately 7.30 a.m. (local time) in the northern Israeli city of Haifa. Police sappers then defused a second set of explosives that had not been detonated in the first blast. Islamic Jihad claimed responsibility for the attack. Later that same day, Palestinian terrorists shot and seriously wounded Tzvi Gottleib, age 35, near the village of Na'aleh. Gottleib was driving with a companion when he was ambushed at approximately 6 p.m. (local time). The following day, Monday, 10 December, Palestinian terrorists fired mortar shells into the Israeli community of Gush Katif, wounding a three-year-old boy and his four-year-old sister.

Yesterday evening, in the week's most deadly strike, at approximately 6 p.m. (local time), Palestinian terrorists attacked a public bus near the Israeli community

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of Emmanuel. Several terrorists ambushed the bus with two roadside bombs and then opened fire, with automatic rifles and anti-tank grenades, on passengers as they fled the vehicle. In a now familiar tactic, the terrorists coordinated their attack so as to target ambulances and rescue and medical workers as they arrived at the scene. Ten Israelis were killed in the attack and approximately 30 others were wounded. The names of those killed are contained in the annex to the present letter. At least two of the terrorists escaped to territory controlled by the Palestinian Authority. The terrorist group Hamas claimed responsibility for the attack.

At almost precisely the same moment, Palestinian suicide bombers attacked two Israeli vehicles near the community of Neve Dekalim, wounding the four occupants. Also yesterday, Palestinians fired mortar shells at the community of Gush Katif, and a roadside bomb exploded near the community of Ganei Tal.

I submit the present letter to you in addition to my previous letters detailing Palestinian terrorist atrocities dated 4 December 2001 (A/56/678-S/2001/1150), 30 November 2001 (A/56/670-S/2001/1141), 28 November 2001 (A/56/668-S/2001/1133), 27 November 2001 (A/56/663-S/2001/1121), 12 November 2001 (A/56/617-S/2001/1071), 5 November 2001 (A/56/604-S/2001/1048), 24 October 2001 (A/56/506-S/2001/1011), 19 October 2001 (A/56/492-S/2001/990), 17 October 2001 (A/56/483-S/2001/975), 8 October 2001 (A/56/450-S/2001/948), 5 October 2001 (A/56/444-S/2001/943), 3 October 2001 (A/56/438-S/2001/938), 24 September 2001 (A/56/406-S/2001/907), 20 September 2001 (A/56/386-S/2001/892), 17 September 2001 (A/56/367-S/2001/875), 7 September 2001 (A/56/346-S/2001/858), 4 September 2001 (A/56/331-S/2001/840), 30 August 2001 (A/56/325-S/2001/834), 27 August 2001 (A/56/324-S/2001/825), 13 August 2001 (A/56/294-S/2001/787), 9 August 2001 (A/56/286-S/2001/780), 8 August 2001 (A/56/280-S/2001/775), 6 August 2001 (A/56/272-S/2001/768), 27 July 2001 (A/56/225-S/2001/743), 26 July 2001 (A/56/223-S/2001/737), 17 July 2001 (A/56/201-S/2001/706), 13 July 2001 (A/56/184-S/2001/696), 3 July 2001 (A/56/138-S/2001/662), 2 July 2001 (A/56/131-S/2001/656), 21 June 2001 (A/56/119-S/2001/619), 19 June 2001 (A/56/98-S/2001/611), 18 June 2001 (A/56/97-S/2001/604), 13 June 2001 (A/56/92-S/2001/585), 11 June 2001 (A/56/91-S/2001/580), 4 June 2001 (A/56/85-S/2001/555), 30 May 2001 (A/56/81-S/2001/540), 25 May 2001 (A/56/80-S/2001/524), 18 May 2001 (A/56/78-S/2001/506), 11 May 2001 (A/56/72-S/2001/473), 9 May 2001 (A/56/69-S/2001/459), 1 May 2001 (A/55/924-S/2001/435), 23 April 2001 (A/55/910-S/2001/396), 16 April 2001 (A/55/901-S/2001/364), 28 March 2001 (A/55/863-S/2001/291), 27 March 2001 (A/55/860-S/2001/280), 26 March 2001 (A/55/858-S/2001/278), 19 March 2001 (A/55/842-S/2001/244), 5 March 2001 (A/55/821-S/2001/193), 2 March 2001 (A/55/819-S/2001/187), 14 February 2001 (A/55/787-S/2001/137), 13 February 2001 (A/55/781-S/2001/132), 2 February 2001 (A/55/762-S/2001/103), 25 January 2001 (A/55/748-S/2001/81), 23 January 2001 (A/55/742-S/2001/71), 28 December 2000 (A/55/719-S/2000/1252), 22 November 2000 (A/55/641-S/2000/1114), 20 November 2000 (A/55/634-S/2000/1108) and 2 November 2000 (A/55/540-S/2000/1065).

It is absolutely intolerable that after the terrorist devastation in Jerusalem last week, and the international community's insistence that the Palestinian leadership finally live up to its responsibilities, terrorism continues to be a daily scourge on Israeli streets. The Palestinian Authority remains unwilling to take the actions necessary to rid its territory of the vast terrorist infrastructure that has sprouted

there. These are actions that, in the midst of a global campaign to eradicate terrorism, must be demanded of every State and entity that aspires to international legitimacy.

What is even more outrageous is that the terrorists perpetrating the murder and maiming of Israeli civilians are well known to the Palestinian leadership. Many of them were released from Palestinian prisons at the outset of the violence in late September 2000. Others are members of the Palestinian police or security forces, or part of paramilitary forces loyal to Chairman Arafat. The names of terrorists involved in the recent spate of attacks have been repeatedly transmitted to the Palestinian security services over the past several months and were most recently included on a list of 33 wanted terrorists that United States envoy Anthony Zinni transferred to the Palestinian Authority. This list includes the very members of the Hamas cell responsible for the attack on the bus near Emmanuel and for a number of other recent attacks. To this day, these terrorists have still not been incarcerated and innocent Israeli civilians continue to pay the deadly price.

All the while, Chairman Arafat persists in his attempts to deceive the world by loudly proclaiming that he is actively fighting terrorism. The daily assaults on innocent Israelis, the relentless incitement in the official Palestinian media and the Palestinian terrorists who freely roam the streets tell a different story. Israeli citizens continue to be moving targets for Palestinian terrorists and their security has become subject to the equivocations, misrepresentations and indecisiveness of the Palestinian leadership. No country would or should permit such a state of affairs to continue.

In light of Chairman Arafat's utter lack of credibility, in both the international community and among the Israeli public, he can no longer be relied upon to fulfil his responsibility to fight the terrorism that emanates from the territory under his control. Israel will therefore continue to take the measures necessary to protect our civilians from the threat of Palestinian terror. As we do so, in accordance with our right and duty, we will continue to take every precaution necessary to ensure that our actions are targeted and precise in order to avoid causing harm to the civilian population.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of the present letter circulated as a document of the fifty-sixth session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 166, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Yehuda **Lancry**
Permanent Representative

Annex to the letter dated 13 December 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Names of those killed in the Palestinian terrorist attack near Emmanuel on 12 December 2001

1. Yair Amar, age 13, of Emmanuel
2. Esther Avraham, age 42, of Emmanuel
3. Border Police Senior St. Sgt. Yoel Binenfeld, age 35, of Moshav Tel Shahar
4. Menahem Moshe Gutman, age 40, of Emmanuel
5. Avraham Nahman Nitzani, age 18, of Beitar Illit
6. Yirmiyahu Salem, age 48, of Emmanuel
7. Israel Sternberg, age 44, of Emmanuel
8. David Tzarfati, age 38, of Ginot Shomron
9. Hanan Tzarfati, age 32, of Ginot Shomron
10. Ya'akov Tzarfati, age 64, of Kfar Saba

United Nations A/56/707

General Assembly

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English
Original: Russian

Fifty-sixth session
Agenda item 74
General and complete disarmament

Letter dated 13 December 2001 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of the statement by Russian Federation President V. V. Putin, of 13 December 2001, in connection with the declaration by the Administration of the United States of America on its withdrawal from the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty in six months.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the fifty-sixth session of the General Assembly under agenda item 74.

(*Signed*) Sergey **Lavrov**

01-69757 (E) 181201 181201

Annex to the letter dated 13 December 2001 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Statement by Russian Federation President V. V. Putin, of 13 December 2001

The Administration of the United States of America declared today that it would withdraw from the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty in six months.

The Treaty indeed grants each of the parties the right to withdraw from it if there are exceptional circumstances. The United States leaders have repeatedly spoken about this, and such a step was not unexpected on our part. Nevertheless, we consider that this decision is mistaken.

As is well known, the Russian Federation, like the United States of America, as distinct from the other nuclear Powers, has for a long time possessed an effective system for overcoming anti-missile defence. Therefore, I can state with complete confidence that the decision taken by the United States President does not create a threat to the national security of the Russian Federation.

At the same time, our country did not accept joint withdrawal from the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty, which the United States persistently proposed, and did everything that it could in order to maintain the Treaty. Today, I continue to believe that such a position is correct and well-founded. In this regard, the Russian Federation was guided first and foremost by a concern to maintain and strengthen the international legal basis in the field of disarmament and the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

The Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty is indeed one of the pillars of the legal system in this field. This system was created through joint efforts over the course of recent decades.

In our view, the development of the situation in the contemporary world urgently dictates a certain logic of action.

Today, when the world is being confronted with new threats, a legal vacuum in the field of strategic stability must not be permitted, and the non-proliferation regimes for weapons of mass destruction must not be undermined.

I consider that the current level of the bilateral relations between the Russian Federation and the United States of America must not only be maintained, but must also be used for the speedy development of a new framework for strategic relations.

Together with the problem of anti-missile defence, the laying down in legal terms of the agreements reached on further radical, irreversible and verifiable reductions of strategic offensive weapons, in our opinion, down to the level of 1,500 to 2,200 nuclear warheads for each party is becoming particularly important under these circumstances.

In conclusion, I should like to point out the Russian Federation will continue to firmly adhere in world affairs to its principled policy aimed at strengthening strategic stability and international security.

United Nations A/56/708

General Assembly

Distr.: General
14 December 2001

Original: English

Fifty-sixth session
Agenda items 22, 48 and 99 (b)

Final review and appraisal of the implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s

Causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa

Operational activities for development: economic and technical cooperation among developing countries

Letter dated 11 December 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of the Chairman's statement on the Ministerial-level meeting of the Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD), held in Tokyo on 3 and 4 December 2001 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex distributed as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 22, 48 and 99 (b).

(*Signed*) Yukio **Satoh**
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations

01-70127 (E) 271201

Annex to the letter dated 11 December 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: English and French]

Chairman's statement on the Ministerial-level meeting of the Tokyo International Conference on African Development, 4 December 2001, Tokyo

The Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD) Ministerial-level meeting was held on 3 and 4 December, 2001, in Tokyo with participation of the Ministers and Heads of Delegations and senior officials, representing 52 African countries and 27 partner countries as well as international, regional and sub-regional organizations. This meeting was organized in the context of high level forums promoted by the TICAD process to build effective partnerships around critical development issues. H. E. Mr. Junichiro Koizumi, Prime Minister of Japan, made the opening speech and H. E. Mr. Alpha Oumar Konare, President of the Republic of Mali, delivered the keynote address. These statements set the tone of the meeting and inspired the active and friendly exchange of views on issues of concern.

The meeting provided a valuable opportunity for a discussion at the Ministerial level of what the TICAD process had accomplished thus far and what could be expected of the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD). Particular emphasis was placed on the following areas:

(1) strengthening the foundation of development, through promotion of peace and good governance;

(2) investing in people, focus on human resource development, education and health sectors; and

(3) reducing poverty through economic growth.

In addition, South-South cooperation, particularly between Asia and Africa as well as among African countries, regional cooperation, and ICT were recognized as important approaches to be taken in promoting African development. The meeting also provided a useful opportunity to engage in dialogue with the private sector and with civil society, and there was a general acknowledgment that the private sector could be an important force behind sustainable development in Africa in the decades to come.

Appreciation was expressed to the Government of Senegal for hosting a preparatory meeting on October 30-31, and the *Chairman's Summary Report* (see appendix) adopted in Dakar, was endorsed as a baseline document for discussion at the meeting.

It was noted with appreciation that the TICAD process has contributed immensely to mainstreaming African development in the agenda of the international community. It was affirmed that the *Tokyo Declaration on African Development*

"Towards the 21st Century" and *the Tokyo Agenda for Action* (TAA) adopted by TICAD I in 1993 and TICAD II in 1998 respectively, had gained increasing relevance. It was emphasized that all stakeholders need to make further efforts to achieve the objectives set by TAA. There was an agreement among all participants as to the importance of strengthening the monitoring of TICAD programmes and projects, by each country and organization concerned.

Also welcomed was NEPAD launched by African leaders as a concrete commitment to assume effective leadership and accountability in realizing the principles of ownership and global partnership. The spirit and objectives of NEPAD are in line with those advocated by TICAD. Willingness to support NEPAD through strengthening of the TICAD process was affirmed. Regional organizations become increasingly important in the implementation process of both NEPAD and TICAD.

The meeting considered the emerging threat of international terrorism to the entire world. However it was urged that Africa's development be retained as one of the highest priority items on the agenda of the international community. It was further noted that the TICAD Ministerial-level meeting was also timely convened to enhance the common understanding of NEPAD in advance of important meetings including the International Conference on Financing for Development and the Kananaskis G8 Summit Meeting.

No real peace and prosperity in the world will be possible without the resolution of African problems. In this regard, the importance for Africa to fully participate in the global economy was reiterated as it was noted that there will be no true globalization without participation of Africa. Emphasis was also placed on efforts being undertaken within the existing framework for relieving the debt burden, advancing the multilateral trade negotiations initiated by the Doha Ministerial Declaration, and establishing the HIV/AIDS, TB and Malaria Fund. The international community was urged to promote resource flows to Africa particularly foreign direct investment.

The Government of Japan, supported by other co-organizers, announced that TICADIII would be held in the latter half of 2003.

The participants extended their high appreciation to the government of Japan for the successful holding of the conference and its leading role in the TICAD process. They also commended the valuable contributions made by other co-organizers in moving the TICAD process forward. Finally, they expressed their gratitude to the people of Japan for the hospitality that has been shown to them during their stay in Japan.

Appendix

[Original: English and French]

Dakar Preparatory Meeting for TICAD Ministerial-level Meeting
Chairman's Summary Report

The following report was agreed on by the participants of the Preparatory Meeting, and was sent to the TICAD Ministerial-level Meeting to be used as the basis of the discussion.

I. Introduction

1. The Preparatory Meeting for the TICAD Ministerial-level Meeting was held on 30 and 31 October, 2001, in Dakar, Senegal. The meeting was co-organised by the Governments of Senegal and Japan, UN-OSCAL, United Nations Development Programme, Global Coalition for Africa and the World Bank.

2. The meeting was co-chaired by the Government of Japan and the Global Coalition for Africa. The meeting was attended by 200 participants, representing 48 African countries and 19 partner countries (5 of which are from Asia), as well as 25 international, regional and sub-regional organizations.

3. H.E. Mr. Abdoulaye Diop, Minister of Economy and Finance of Senegal delivered the keynote address.

4. The objective of the Preparatory Meeting was to review at the technical level, progress achieved so far in the TICAD process and to finalise documentation to the Ministerial-level Meeting to be held in Tokyo, Japan from 3 and 4 December, 2001.

II. Objectives

5. With accelerated globalization and the participation of more diversified stakeholders in the international development arena, African countries have been endeavoring to achieve sustainable development by strengthening their ownership in development and partnership with the international community since TICAD II was held in October 1998.

6. The Preparatory Meeting provided an opportunity for African countries, development partners and international organisations to meet and discuss further the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), launched by African leaders. The Meeting also recognised the extent of efforts made by African countries and the international community for strengthening ownership and partnership, by reviewing the progress of the Tokyo Agenda for Action (TAA) adopted at TICAD II. Furthermore, the Meeting discussed outstanding development issues as well as future directions of activities to be undertaken by Africa and the international community.

7. Based on the discussions at the Preparatory Meeting and taking into account the outcomes of other international fora focusing on the same development issues, the participants reached a consensus that they need to seek and articulate a direction for the future TICAD process.

III. Post TICAD II Review and NEPAD: Challenges and Issues in Africa

8. The TICAD process has greatly contributed to strengthening ownership by Africa and partnership with the international community since TICAD I in 1993. TICAD II, held in 1998, sought to identify measures to be taken to reduce poverty in Africa and to integrate Africa into the international economy. It also adopted the Tokyo Agenda for Action (TAA) which provides a strategic, action-oriented, and comprehensive guideline. The Meeting recognised the increasing relevance of TAA. The Meeting further recognised the importance of continuous monitoring of the progress of implementation of the TAA at the country-level.

9. The Meeting also observed that Africa is steadily deploying its efforts to strengthen its commitment in pursuit of the development targets indicated in the TAA. The NEPAD, conceived and launched by Africans, is a framework for realising the vision set by African leaders and for strengthening partnership for implementation of that vision. The Meeting commended this effort, and emphasised the need to support the NEPAD through TICAD process. The Meeting took note that timing, capacity, and political will are key elements of success for NEPAD.

10. The Meeting also took note of various initiatives of cooperation between African countries and the

international community, including, among others, the dialogue between African leaders and G8, the drawing-up of the "The Declaration of Cairo" between OAU and EU, the conclusion of the "Cotonou Agreement" between ACP and EU, the approval of the African Growth & Opportunity Act (AGOA) by the US, and the "Beijing Declaration for the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation" and the "Program for China-Africa Cooperation in Economic and Social Development". It was emphasised that NEPAD does not seek to replace or compete with other initiatives, but rather to consciously establish linkages and synergy between NEPAD and these initiatives. The Meeting emphasized that NEPAD is an overarching framework for African development.

11. It was observed that, in spite of all these efforts, however, African countries are still confronted with numerous obstacles which hinder them from achieving sustainable development and which destabilize their societies and hamper peace. The Meeting noted strengthening of the role of the TICAD process in support of NEPAD is a common expectation among African countries and the international community. It also recognised that concerns of Africa and the international community about tackling Africa's problems are consistently being raised. In this context, the Meeting noted that debt relief is an important element in the strategy for addressing poverty reduction.

IV. Priority Areas

12. The Meeting acknowledged that, while progress had been made in addressing several of the priority issues raised in the TAA, much more needed to be done. The Meeting reached a consensus about the increasing relevance of the Guidelines for Action contained in the TAA. What is essential for African countries and their development partners is to steadily implement at the national, sub-regional, regional and international levels, the specific actions and programmes under TAA, NEPAD and other initiatives supporting these processes. Furthermore, the participants in this Meeting exchanged views and opinions in detail on the priority areas. These are summarized below:

(1) Foundation of Development

(a) Governance

13. The Meeting recognised that internal peace, security, and stability are prerequisites for achieving sustainable development in any society and economy. It also acknowledged that good governance is critical in attaining Africa's sustainable development. The participants welcomed the progress made in the area of democratic governance in the continent and acknowledged the necessity of realising good governance and eliminating corruption. It noted that while free and fair elections were central to democratic governance, it observed that the holding of free and fair elections was not an end itself but an important beginning. It was also noted that some African countries in post-conflict situations had recorded economic growth. It welcomed the reported decrease in military expenditure as a percentage of GDP in African countries to be a step in the right direction.

14. In order to realise good governance that encompasses democracy, transparency, accountability, respect for basic human rights, rule of law, and participation of citizens in decision-making, it is important to anchor democratic governance on solid economic foundations and to strengthen the political and administrative framework in African countries, in accordance with NEPAD. Therefore, the Meeting urged to continuing support for African countries in: (i) carrying out free and fair elections (ii) implementing administrative and civil service reform (iii) strengthening legislative performance and parliamentary oversight (iv) promoting decentralisation efforts and enhancing administrative capacity at the local level (v) establishing effective measures for good economic governance including combating corruption (vi) instituting police and judicial reform (vii) improving the sensitivity at the grass-root level and fostering civil society for strengthening reform and (viii) reducing poverty.

(b) Peace

15. Conflict hampers the economic growth and sustainable development of African countries. Some regional and sub-regional organisations in Africa (e.g. OAU and ECOWAS) are actively involved in preventing, managing, and resolving conflicts by mediating between different groups in countries in conflict and by dispatching cease-fire monitoring groups to them. Considering Africa's efforts and progress, the Meeting supported the NEPAD, which seeks to strengthen the ability of African countries address conflict prevention, management, and resolution. It was stressed that implementing peace agreements should receive as much attention as negotiating them. The Meeting also recognised that further efforts are

necessary for voluntary repatriation or integration and resettling of refugees and internally displaced persons, disarming and demobilizing soldiers and ex-combatants, de-mining affected land, promoting the collection of small arms and light weapons and banning their circulation, and strengthening control of illegally obtained natural resources trade, including diamonds. The participants proposed that the international community should continue to support efforts of African countries towards reconciliation, rehabilitation, and reconstruction during the post-conflict period. The Meeting noted linkage between conflicts and poverty.

(2) Investing in People

(a) Human Resources Development and Education

16. The enrolment ratio at secondary and tertiary education levels has continued to rise in recent years but exhibited only slight improvement at the primary level. The Meeting noted that further improvement of access to education, particularly to primary education, is necessary. In this regard, the Meeting acknowledged the need for access, continuation and completion of education for girls. It also noted the need to put particular emphasis on prioritizing education for women and on promoting education for refugee children. Moreover, in order to improve the quality of education, it recognised the importance of creating appropriate curricula, promoting teacher education, strengthening educational management based on regional context, popularizing education in science and technology taking full advantage of South-South Cooperation, and promoting education for preventing infectious diseases including HIV/AIDS. The Meeting discussed that the functional literacy should be promoted.

(b) Health (Infectious Diseases, especially HIV/AIDS)

17. HIV/AIDS is not only an issue of the health sector but should be addressed through cross-sectoral efforts, since the spread of HIV/AIDS and other infectious diseases, is a menace to human security and undermine African development.

18. The Meeting commended the achievement of some African countries in arresting the spread of HIV/AIDS, through education and prevention campaigns. It was advocated that all African countries should, in accordance with the Addis Ababa Consensus and Abuja Declaration, implement the appropriate actions aimed at combating as well as mitigating the negative socio-economic impact of HIV/AIDS, particularly at the community level. The Meeting acknowledged that this could be achieved through the sharing of experiences at the regional level, and through South-South Cooperation.

19. The Meeting, moreover, recognised that efforts are necessary in both preventing new cases and caring for those infected and affected. Measures for prevention include the promotion of education for prevention (particularly the sensitization of the youth), promotion of access to prevention products and information provision services, prevention of mother-to-child transmission, and promotion of voluntary counselling and testing. Curative measures include strengthening health systems to enable those infected to access medical services, establishing a system to offer affordable care, as well as treating those left as orphans. In addition to the HIV/AIDS issue, the Meeting recognised the necessity of improving access to basic health and reproductive health services for all.

20. Furthermore, the Meeting appreciated the establishment of the HIV/AIDS, TB and Malaria Fund, and encouraged the setting up, without delay, of the mechanism for its implementation. It also noted the efforts to promote the linkages between institutions, involved in HIV/AIDS research in Africa and Asia. The Meeting stressed that attention should also be given to combating other infectious diseases such as those epidemic prone diseases and malaria.

(3) Poverty Reduction through Economic Growth

(a) Agricultural Development (including food security)

21. Agriculture is the backbone of the African economies. It accounts for a large portion of African GDP, labor force, and exports. It is also the main resource supplier for the manufacturing sector in Africa. The majority of Africa's population live in rural areas and depend on agricultural production for income and food. The Meeting recognised the need to improve productivity, strengthen farmer organisations taking into account the role of women, institute measures to issues relating to land utilisation and tenure from policy perspectives, promote access to agricultural input and output markets, and promote farmers' access to capital. Improvement of rural infrastructures and promotion of environmentally sustainable agriculture,

including water resource management, were also emphasized. In addition, since high-yielding varieties (HYVs) suitable for the African context are currently being developed in Africa as part of the trilateral cooperation, the Meeting recognised the importance of the applicability of Asian experience to the African context in introducing and extending HYVs.

(b) Infrastructure

22. Infrastructure is the key to private sector development. The lack or low quality of infrastructure, such as energy, water and sanitation, and transportation systems, greatly restricts the establishment and operation of sustainable and efficient business activities. The Meeting noted the need to further develop basic infrastructure, in view of their importance as one of the major parameters of economic growth. The Meeting emphasised that a policy and institutional framework needed to be created for attracting investments and utilising the technology of the private sector, in order for African countries to develop a new infrastructure, expand and upgrade the current infrastructure, and strengthen operation and maintenance capacity and management for service delivery. For instance, the privatisation and deregulation in the power sector, which have already been accomplished by several African countries, are part of the challenge for creating a sound environment for promoting private sector participation. Participants also shared the concept of the necessity to promote the development of networks of infrastructure beyond boundaries of countries, so as to enhance regional cooperation and trade activities, as well as to encourage investment from the private sector.

(c) Private-sector development

23. The Meeting noted the necessity to stimulate private sector development as a driving force for sustained economic and social development. It recognised that a sound environment, conducive to dynamic and vibrant private sector activities, should be created by establishing and implementing sound macroeconomic policies, improving the transparency and predictability of legal and administrative procedures, strengthening the financial sector, and efficiently using the infrastructure through deregulation or privatization. Participants recognised the need for improving the capacity and skills in management and technology of the private sector, including small and medium-sized enterprises and the informal sector. For this purpose, it was agreed that effective measures might include providing training and technical cooperation, introducing micro-credit schemes for increasing access to capital, and establishing regional networks such as chambers of commerce and professional associations to increase access to information.

24. The Meeting also recognised that expanding trade by increased foreign direct investment and exports from Africa could greatly contribute to further developing the private sector. In some African countries, strong policies for promoting foreign direct investment have recently stimulated diversification of their products, making their economic bases stronger and more competitive. It was pointed out that the development of the private sector would require strengthening and removing trade and investment barriers; supporting the WTO trade regime, taking into account the circumstances of the Least Developed Countries (LDCs); promoting and diversifying exports from Africa; encouraging foreign direct investments including investments in infrastructure; and providing the know-how in finance, technology, and management. The Meeting emphasised the necessity for strengthening the public-private sector dialogue on a continuous basis.

V. Main Approaches

25. Enhancement of African ownership and establishment of strong partnership with donor countries and African countries and effective use of ODA resources are essential elements of the TICAD process. To respond appropriately to diversified and increased development needs in African countries, it is important for various actors to mobilize more effectively and in a coordinated manner their assistance, based on experiences and know-how consistent with the development strategy of African ownership.

26. The Meeting recognised that the characteristic approaches in the TICAD process, South-South Cooperation, regional cooperation, and information and communication technology for development, are becoming more and more important. It also agreed to positively utilise the approach, especially focusing on assistance and cooperation among development partners in the African continent.

(1) South-South Cooperation

27. South-South Cooperation is an effective approach for strengthening partnership and collective self-reliance among developing countries. The approach will also contribute to the concerted efforts of the

developing countries to address development issues of mutual interest and common concern, such as trade and investment, ICT for development, science and technology and HIV/AIDS. South-South Cooperation has now been firmly established as a cost effective instrument of international cooperation for development that can effectively utilise the resources allocated for operational activities for development.

28. With reference to partnership for trade and investment, the Meeting observed that the Second Africa-Asia Business Forum had provided Asian and African business enterprises the opportunity to further explore mutual interests as business partners by promoting corporate linkages, and agreed to continue supporting the creation of additional business opportunities. The Meeting also noted that the Hippalos Centre (AAITPC) is conducting activities to promote trade and investment between Asia and Africa. It took note of the Zambia-Malawi-Mozambique Growth Triangle (ZMMGT) as an example of application of Asian experiences.

29. In relation to partnerships for sharing knowledge and experience, the Meeting agreed that it was beneficial to promote South-South Cooperation, focusing on the agricultural, health, and human resource development sectors (for instance, in the agricultural sector, NERICA rice has been developed based on Asian varieties contributing to food security in west Africa.) It acknowledged that it was also important to explore the applicability of Asian and African experiences in preventing and controlling the spread of HIV/AIDS and other infectious diseases in African countries. It also recognised the importance of expanding technical training programmes to include overseas participants and of the need to increase possibilities for human resource development through personnel exchange among African countries. Asian partners expressed their continued commitment to sharing their experiences and knowledge for African development.

(2) Regional Cooperation

30. While noting many constraints hampering regional cooperation in Africa (lack of infrastructure, tariff and non-tariff barriers, lack of political commitment, weak harmonisation of policies, overlapping and multiplicity of organisations, etc.), the Meeting recognised that it was becoming increasingly important for African development to strengthen regional cooperation and facilitate regional integration and commended Africa's movement to evolve the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) into the African Union (AU). It also acknowledged that it was important to eliminate duplication of efforts and to rationalise organisational activities in order to optimize utilisation of limited resources and thus strengthen capacities for their activities.

31. The participants agreed that supporting African regional organisations was extremely important in (i) conflict prevention, management, and resolution towards peace-building in Africa (ii) expansion of market and creation of incentives for investors through regional economic integration (iii) promotion of trade and investment, marketing of commodities and sharing information between regions through infrastructure development (iv) strengthening of preventive and protective measures for infectious diseases such as HIV/AIDS, which requires international management and (v) stimulation of human capacity building through personnel interchange in intra-African countries. They also acknowledged that regional cooperation should be facilitated effectively by strengthening not only intergovernmental organisations, but also grass-root level activities, including the private sector and NGOs.

(3) Information and Communication Technology for Development

32. In spite of the fact that the development of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) is expected to change our economy and way of life more profoundly in the 21st century, there is concern that ICT could contribute to widening the gap in availability of information between regions in the world. In this respect, attention should be paid not only to gaps between Africa and other regions in the world but also to gaps among countries in Africa. Recognizing that there are numerous factors underlying these gaps, such as the lack of an ICT infrastructure and weakness of legal and policy frameworks as well as a shortage of human resources in the industry, the Meeting agreed on the importance of creating a sound environment for establishing and developing the ICT industry, in particular, through the active participation of the private sector, and through the efforts of governments in developing relevant institutions, creating conducive environment for human resources development and basic infrastructures

33. In addition, ICT could play a significant role in promoting social development. In particular, it provides the opportunity to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of activities in such areas as governance, peace building, measures against infectious diseases, support for refugees, human resource development, and economic development. Thus, ICT applications adapted to the local circumstances

should be pursued. Furthermore, utilising ICT to create networks of knowledge and information within the countries, within the sub-regions, and among the sub-regions in Africa could greatly contribute to strengthening human resource exchanges and mutual understanding of people in the vast and diversified continent of Africa. In this regard, the Meeting noted that considerations for using ICT to create such networks should be incorporated when development projects and programmes are planned and implemented.

VI. Closing remarks

34. The Meeting reemphasized that people should be at the center of development cooperation in Africa. It also recognised that the planning and implementation of development strategies and programs should fully consider the social and economic circumstances of each country and sub-region and that these processes crucially require the participation of stakeholders. In this context, efforts must be made to firmly reflect the voice of people in Africa, who are the ultimate beneficiaries, in the process of developing Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSPs) and sector programs. It was further noted that the experience and know-how of various groups in the international community should be shared with Africa to support it in its challenging tasks.

35. The Meeting expressed strong support for the efforts of Africa and the international community to strengthen the principles of TICAD: the establishment of ownership of African countries and partnership between Africa and development partners to support African ownership. It also stressed that it was necessary to continually endeavor to further promote the TAA, as support to the NEPAD in order to achieve peace, stability, and prosperity in Africa.

36. All participants were satisfied with the discussion based on the issue papers prepared by the co-organisers and the presentation on NEPAD. It was considered that the Dakar Meeting was successful in effectively preparing the groundwork for the Ministerial-level Meeting to be held in Tokyo in December. All participants expressed their thanks to the Government of Senegal for excellent arrangements.

31 October 2001

Dakar, Senegal

United Nations A/56/709

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Fifty-sixth session
Agenda items 44 and 123

The situation in Central America: procedures for the establishment of firm and lasting peace and progress in fashioning a region of peace, freedom, democracy and development

Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003

The situation in Central America: procedures for the establishment of firm and lasting peace and progress in fashioning a region of peace, freedom, democracy and development

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/56/L.45

Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has considered the statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly on the programme budget implications of draft resolution A/56/L.45, entitled "The situation in Central America: procedures for the establishment of a firm and lasting peace and progress in fashioning a region of peace, freedom, democracy and development" (A/C.5/56/27). During its consideration of the statement, the Advisory Committee met with representatives of the Secretary-General.

2. As indicated in paragraphs 4 to 14 of document A/C.5/56/27, the Secretary-General requests the continuation in 2002 of provisions for a Political Affairs Officer post (P-4) and one General Service post to continue to provide support to the efforts of the Secretary-General in post-conflict peace-building in Central America. The Political Affairs Officer would continue to monitor the Guatemala peace process, providing support to the activities of the United Nations Verification Mission in Guatemala (MINUGUA) and to the verification and good offices functions carried out by United Nations Headquarters in respect of the peace-building process in El Salvador. The Political Affairs Officer would also follow

01-69889 (E) 141201

developments in the Central America region as a whole. The estimated costs related to the salaries and common staff costs of these two posts amount to $188,500.

3. The Advisory Committee notes that an amount of $93,691,600 has been included for special political missions under section 3, Political affairs, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003 (A/56/6 (Sect. 3)), pursuant to General Assembly resolution 55/233 of 23 December 2000.

4. **Should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/56/L.45, the Advisory Committee recommends that an amount of $188,500 be charged against the provision for special political missions under section 3, Political affairs, of the programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003.**

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Fifty-sixth session
Agenda items 98 (a) and 123

Environment and sustainable development: implementation of Agenda 21 and the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21

Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003

World Summit on Sustainable Development

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.2/56/L.71

Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has considered the statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly on the budget implications of draft resolution A/C.2/56/L.71 (A/C.5/56/L.28).

2. As indicated in the statement, under the terms of operative paragraph 8 of draft resolution A/C.2/56/L.71 the General Assembly would request the Secretary-General to launch a public information campaign to raise global awareness of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, including through reprioritization of the budget of the Department of Public Information and voluntary contributions.

3. The Committee recalls that paragraph 26.9 of the proposed programme budget for 2002-2003 indicated that the level of resources for public information did not include any provision for the information activities associated with special meetings or conferences to be scheduled for the biennium, and that should the Department be requested to carry out such activities, such necessary resources would be sought through the presentation of statements of programme budget implications.

4. The Committee notes that for the purpose of highlighting the goals and purposes of the Summit, to be held in Johannesburg from 26 August to 4 September 2002, and the sessions of its preparatory committee, the Department of Public Information, in collaboration with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, will develop an information strategy. The total estimated costs for the public

01-69818 (E) 141201

information activities described in paragraphs 4 and 5 of the statement submitted by the Secretary-General amount to $352,500.

5. With regard to draft resolution A/C.2/56/L.71, upon enquiry, the Committee was informed that the issue of prioritization could only be handled in the context of the provisions of General Assembly resolutions 41/213 and 42/211, and that no voluntary contributions were available.

6. The Advisory Committee recommends that the Fifth Committee inform the General Assembly that, should it adopt draft resolution A/C.2/56/L.71, expenditures would arise not exceeding $352,500 under section 26, Public information, of the proposed programme budget for 2002-2003, and that additional appropriations would be considered by the General Assembly in accordance with the procedures set out in General Assembly resolutions 41/213 and 42/211 for the use and operation of the contingency fund.

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Programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001

Construction of additional office facilities at the Economic Commission for Africa in Addis Ababa

Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has considered the report of the Secretary-General on construction of additional office facilities at the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) in Addis Ababa (A/56/672). The report was submitted to the General Assembly in accordance with the procedures outlined in the Advisory Committee's report on building construction procedures (A/36/643). A letter dated 13 July 2001 addressed to the Secretary-General by the Chairman of the Advisory Committee is annexed to the present report. During its consideration of the report (A/56/672), the Committee met with representatives of the Secretary-General, who provided additional information.

2. The Advisory Committee recalls that, as indicated in the report of the Secretary-General, in line with the United Nations common house concept and as a result of the complex security situation, the regional, subregional and country offices of the United Nations specialized agencies, funds and programmes in Addis Ababa have been gradually relocated to the United Nations complex. In addition, in the past two to three years, considerable expansion of the United Nations humanitarian and development activities in the region have led to increased demand for office space at ECA premises. As a result, the Commission is experiencing a serious shortage of space, which it has attempted to alleviate temporarily by converting some common areas (including corridors) and conference-servicing space to office use.

3. On the basis of a survey of projected needs for office space undertaken by the Commission in 2000, it is estimated that it will require office space for an additional 316 staff (see A/56/672, para. 17). The Advisory Committee notes that, in addition to the above, the estimated additional gross space requirement of 6,770 square metres takes into account a 20 per cent increase factor for staff over the next 10 to 15 years (ibid., para. 18).

4. As indicated in the report, the current proportion of usable office space to total available space is 51 per cent, and it is proposed to maintain this proportion in the new construction (ibid.). The Advisory Committee expresses its concern at the low percentage of usable office space. **The Committee therefore requests that, in the context of the 12-month period foreseen for the formulation of the comprehensive design plan and detailed cost plan preparation (ibid., para. 20 (d)), a re-examination be made of the use of the proposed 6,770 square metres of additional space to maximize office space and minimize common and temporary space, taking into account existing standards (see A/56/672, para. 7).**

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5. The Advisory Committee also requests a re-examination of the need for swing space,[1] given the expansion factor built into the space requirements in anticipation of an increase in core functional staff over the next 10 to 15 years (ibid., paras. 17 and 18), and given the potential increase in usable office space in the light of the re-examination of the proportion of office space to common space recommended in paragraph 4 above.

6. The Advisory Committee notes the arrangements for management of the project as described in paragraph 22 of the report, as well as the related costs, which are estimated at $508,200 (ibid., para. 26). Responsibility for management of the project at Headquarters will be assigned to the Office for Central Support Services; local management of the project will be carried out through the establishment of a project coordination unit, which will operate for the duration of the project. **The Committee requests that a progress report be submitted to the General Assembly each year until the project is completed, which the Secretary-General estimates would be in 2005.**

7. On the basis of a survey of the local construction market, the cost of the project is estimated at $7,711,800 (ibid., paras. 23 and 24). The Advisory Committee notes that the balance remaining in the construction-in-progress account as at 30 June 2000 amounted to $7,702,600. Furthermore, the balance had increased to $8,253,000 as at 30 June 2001, owing to credited investment income (ibid., para. 29).

8. Based on previous experience, the Advisory Committee concludes that a delay in approving the funds might lead to higher costs in the long run. The Advisory Committee therefore recommends that the General Assembly authorize the construction of a new office building at the United Nations compound in Addis Ababa, and that it approve an appropriation in the amount of $7,711,800 for that purpose, to be funded from within the available balance of the construction-in-progress account. However, bearing in mind its comments and recommendations set out above, the Committee recommends that the Commission consider the possibility of leasing any unoccupied office space to suitable outside commercial concerns. Further, the Committee trusts that an agreement with the host Government for tax exemption with regard to materials for the project will be concluded as soon as possible, but no la than the commencement of construction.

Notes

[1] This would provide for office space for the equivalen 57 staff to ensure uninterrupted operations while offic space alterations and/or major maintenance involving temporary relocation of staff are under way (see A/56/672, para. 17).

Annex

Letter dated 13 July 2001 from the Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions addressed to the Secretary-General

The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has considered your note concerning United Nations accommodation at Addis Ababa (A/CN.1/R.1194). The Committee notes that, in line with the United Nations common house concept and as the result of the complex security situation, the regional, subregional, and country offices of the United Nations specialized agencies, funds and programmes in Addis Ababa have been gradually relocated to the United Nations complex. In addition, in the last two to three years, considerable expansion of the United Nations humanitarian and development activities in the region have led to increased demand for office space at ECA premises. As a result, the Commission' is experiencing a serious shortage of office space, which it has attempted to alleviate temporarily by converting some common areas (including corridors) and conference-servicing space to office use. Many of these offices are sub-standard, without daylight or proper ventilation. In addition, fire safety has been compromised through the conversion of corridor space to offices.

On the basis of a survey of the projected needs for office space undertaken by the Commission in 2000, it is estimated that there is a need for additional office space for 316 staff. Taking into account standard average office space requirements as detailed in your note, as well as projected increases in the number of core staff over the next 10 to 15 years, you propose construction of a new four-storey office building with a total area of 6,770 square metres at a total cost of $7,342,500. The Advisory Committee notes that calculation of the cost is based on the outcome of a survey of the local construction market and the construction industry standards for low, medium and luxury-level construction in Addis Ababa and that the estimated duration of the project is 41 work-months.

As indicated in paragraphs 26 to 29 of the note, the balance remaining in the construction-in-progress account upon completion of the projects for construction of additional conference facilities at Bangkok and Addis Ababa was $7,702,600 as at 30 June 2000. Furthermore, the balance had increased to $8,023,000 as at 31 December 2000 owing to credited investment income. Thus, the new construction project could be financed in its entirety from within the available balance in the construction-in-progress account.

The Advisory Committee concurs in the submission to the General Assembly, in accordance with the procedures outlined in the report of the Committee on building construction procedures (A/36/643), of the proposal for construction of a new office building in Addis Ababa of a total area of 6,770 square metres at an estimated cost of $7,342,500 (at current rates), to be funded from the available balance of the construction-in-progress account. The Committee requests that, in your report to the Assembly, you include information on resources for management, monitoring and oversight of the project. In the opinion of the Committee, the designation of a special unit solely dedicated to the project would be the preferable arrangement. The report should include an accurate assessment of construction costs over the period of construction, taking into account inflation, contingencies and other cost elements, such as importation of materials and equipment. Furthermore,

the agreement of the host Government should be obtained for tax exemption of materials for the project. After it has considered your report, the Committee will submit detailed comments and recommendations to the Assembly at its fifty-sixth session.

(*Signed*) C. S. M. **Mselle**
Chairman

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Agenda item 141

Financing of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Santiago **Wins** (Uruguay)

I. Introduction

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 19 September 2001, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone" and to allocate it to the Fifth Committee.

2. The Fifth Committee considered the item at its 29th, 30th and 36th meetings, on 26 and 28 November and 13 December 2001. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/56/SR.29, 30 and 36).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the report of the Secretary-General containing the budget for the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone for the period from 1 July 2001 to 30 June 2002 (A/56/487) and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/56/621).

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.5/56/L.16

4. At the 36th meeting, on 13 December, the representative of Uruguay, Rapporteur of the Committee and coordinator of the informal consultations on the item, introduced, on behalf of the Chairman, a draft resolution entitled "Financing of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone" (A/C.5/56/L.16).

5. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/56/L.16 without a vote (see para. 6).

01-70118 (E) 221201

III. Recommendation of the Fifth Committee

6. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Financing of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone[1] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2]

Bearing in mind Security Council resolution 1270 (1999) of 22 October 1999, by which the Council established the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone, and the subsequent resolutions by which the Council revised and extended the mandate of the Mission, the latest of which was resolution 1370 (2001) of 18 September 2001,

Recalling its resolution 53/29 of 20 November 1998 on the financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Sierra Leone and subsequent resolutions on the financing of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone, the latest of which was resolution 55/251 B of 14 June 2001,

Reaffirming the general principles underlying the financing of United Nations peacekeeping operations, as stated in General Assembly resolutions 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, 3101 (XXVIII) of 11 December 1973 and 55/235 of 23 December 2000,

Noting with appreciation that voluntary contributions have been made to the Mission,

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Mission with the necessary financial resources to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

1. *Takes note* of the status of contributions to the United Nations Observer Mission in Sierra Leone and the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone as at 15 November 2001, including the contributions outstanding in the amount of 317.1 million United States dollars, representing, regrettably, some 30 per cent of the total assessed contributions, notes that some 11 per cent of Member States have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States concerned, in particular those in arrears, to ensure payment of their outstanding assessed contributions;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Member States which have paid their assessed contributions in full and on time and urges all other Member States to make every possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the Mission in full and on time;

[1] A/56/487.
[2] A/56/621.

3. *Expresses concern* about the financial situation with regard to peacekeeping activities, in particular as regards the reimbursements to troop contributors that bear additional burdens owing to overdue payments by Member States of their assessments;

4. *Expresses concern* at the delay experienced by the Secretary-General in deploying and providing adequate resources to some recent peacekeeping missions, in particular those in Africa;

5. *Emphasizes* that all future and existing peacekeeping missions shall be given equal and non-discriminatory treatment in respect of financial and administrative arrangements;

6. *Also emphasizes* that all peacekeeping missions shall be provided with adequate resources for the effective and efficient discharge of their respective mandates;

7. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to make the fullest possible use of facilities and equipment at the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy, in order to minimize the costs of procurement for the Mission;

8. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2] and requests the Secretary-General to ensure their full implementation;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the Mission is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

10. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in order to reduce the cost of employing General Service staff, to continue efforts to recruit local staff for the Mission against General Service posts, commensurate with the requirements of the Mission;

11. *Decides* to appropriate the amount of 699,230,584 dollars gross (693,126,185 dollars net) for the maintenance of the Mission for the 12-month period from 1 July 2001 to 30 June 2002, inclusive of the amount of 7,230,584 dollars gross (6,685,385 dollars net) for the support account for peacekeeping operations, in addition to the amount of 16,634,763 dollars gross (14,598,640 dollars net) already appropriated for the support account for peacekeeping operations, and the amount of 1,737,712 dollars gross (1,560,456 dollars net) already appropriated for the United Nations Logistics Base by the General Assembly in its resolution 55/251 B, inclusive of the amount of 275 million dollars gross (273,375,000 dollars net) authorized by the Assembly in resolution 55/251 B;

12. *Decides also*, taking into account the amount of 275 million dollars gross (273,375,000 dollars net) already apportioned for the period from 1 July to 31 December 2001 and the amount of 18,372,475 dollars gross (16,159,096 dollars net) already apportioned for the period from 1 July 2001 to 30 June 2002, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 55/251 B, to apportion among Member States the amount of 251,230,584 dollars gross (248,140,985 dollars net) for the period from 1 July 2001 to 31 March 2002, in accordance with the levels set out in General Assembly resolution 55/235, as adjusted by the Assembly in resolution 55/236 of 23 December 2000, and taking into account the scale of assessments for the years 2001 and 2002, as set out in its resolution 55/5 B of 23 December 2000, the scale of assessments for the year 2001 to be applied against a portion thereof, that is,

71 million dollars gross (69,845,400 dollars net) for the period from 1 July to 31 December 2001, and the scale of assessments for the year 2002 to be applied against the balance, that is, 180,230,584 dollars gross (178,295,585 dollars net) for the period from 1 January to 31 March 2002;

13. *Decides further* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 12 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 3,089,599 dollars approved for the Mission for the period from 1 July 2001 to 31 March 2002, 1,154,600 dollars being the amount pertaining to the period from 1 July to 31 December 2001, and the balance, that is, 1,934,999 dollars pertaining to the period from 1 January to 31 March 2002;

14. *Decides* to apportion among Member States the amount of 132 million dollars gross (130,938,600 dollars net) for the period from 1 April to 30 June 2002, at a monthly rate of 44 million dollars gross (43,646,200 dollars net) in accordance with the scheme set out in the present resolution and taking into account the scale of assessments for the year 2002, as set out in its resolution 55/5 B, subject to the decision of the Security Council to extend the mandate of the Mission beyond 31 March 2002;

15. *Decides also* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X), there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 14 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 1,061,400 dollars approved for the Mission for the period from 1 April to 30 June 2002;

16. *Emphasizes* that no peacekeeping mission shall be financed by borrowing funds from other active peacekeeping missions;

17. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue to take additional measures to ensure the safety and security of all personnel under the auspices of the United Nations participating in the Mission;

18. *Invites* voluntary contributions to the Mission in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure and practices established by the General Assembly;

19. *Decides* to keep under review during its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone".

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Financing of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Santiago **Wins** (Uruguay)

I. Introduction

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 19 September 2001, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo" and to allocate it to the Fifth Committee.

2. The Fifth Committee considered the item at its 35th and 36th meetings, on 12 and 13 December 2001, respectively. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/56/SR.35 and 36).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the report of the Secretary-General containing the proposed budget for the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo for the period from 1 July 2001 to 30 June 2002 (A/56/660) and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/56/688).

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.5/56/L.19

4. At the 36th meeting, on 13 December, the representative of Uruguay, Rapporteur of the Committee and coordinator of informal consultations on the item, introduced, on behalf of the Chairman, a draft resolution entitled "Financing of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo" (A/C.5/56/L.19).

01-70112 (E) 221201

5. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/56/L.19 without a vote (see para. 6).

III. Recommendation of the Fifth Committee

6. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Financing of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo[1] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2]

Bearing in mind Security Council resolution 1258 (1999) of 6 August 1999, by which the Council established the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and the subsequent resolutions by which the Council revised and extended the mandate of the Mission, the latest of which was resolution 1376 (2001) of 9 November 2001,

Recalling its resolution 54/260 A of 7 April 2000 as well as subsequent resolutions on the financing of the Mission, the latest of which was resolution 55/275 of 14 June 2001,

Reaffirming the general principles underlying the financing of United Nations peacekeeping operations, as stated in General Assembly resolutions 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, 3101 (XXVIII) of 11 December 1973 and 55/235 of 23 December 2000,

Noting with appreciation that voluntary contributions have been made to the Mission,

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Mission with the necessary financial resources to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

1. *Reiterates* paragraph 1 of its resolution 55/275;

2. *Takes note* of the status of contributions to the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo as at 15 November 2001, including the contributions outstanding in the amount of 152.6 million United States dollars, representing, regrettably, some 40 per cent of the total assessed contributions, notes that some 22 per cent of Member States have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States concerned, in particular those in arrears, to ensure payment of their outstanding assessed contributions;

[1] A/56/660.
[2] A/56/688.

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Member States which have paid their assessed contributions in full and on time, and urges all other Member States to make every possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the Mission in full;

4. *Expresses concern* about the financial situation with regard to peacekeeping activities, in particular as regards the reimbursements to troop contributors that bear additional burdens owing to overdue payments by Member States of their assessments;

5. *Also expresses concern* at the delay experienced by the Secretary-General in deploying and providing adequate resources to some recent peacekeeping missions, in particular those in Africa;

6. *Emphasizes* that all future and existing peacekeeping missions shall be given equal and non-discriminatory treatment in respect of financial and administrative arrangements;

7. *Also emphasizes* that all peacekeeping missions shall be provided with adequate resources for the effective and efficient discharge of their respective mandates;

8. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to make the fullest possible use of facilities and equipment at the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy, in order to minimize the costs of procurement for the Mission;

9. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2] and requests the Secretary-General to ensure their full implementation;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the Mission is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

11. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in order to reduce the cost of employing General Service staff, to continue efforts to recruit local staff for the Mission against General Service posts, commensurate with the requirements of the Mission;

12. *Decides* to appropriate the additional amount of 196,593,590 dollars gross (193,819,705 dollars net) for the maintenance of the Mission for the nine-month period from 1 July 2001 to 31 March 2002, inclusive of the amount of 3,351,190 dollars gross (3,098,505 dollars net) for the support account for peacekeeping operations, in addition to the amount of 8,260,509 dollars gross (7,249,409 dollars net) already appropriated for the support account for peacekeeping operations, the amount of 862,915 dollars gross (774,893 dollars net) already appropriated for the United Nations Logistics Base and the amount of 200 million dollars gross (194,823,300 dollars net) for the maintenance of the Mission for the period from 1 July to 31 December 2001 appropriated and assessed by the General Assembly in its resolution 55/275;

13. *Decides also*, taking into account the amount of 200 million dollars gross (194,823,300 dollars net) already apportioned for the period from 1 July to 31 December 2001 in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 55/275, to apportion among Member States the additional amount of 196,593,590 dollars gross (193,819,705 dollars net) for the period from 1 January to 31 March 2002 in

accordance with the levels set out in General Assembly resolution 55/235, as adjusted by the Assembly in its resolution 55/236 of 23 December 2000, and taking into account the scale of assessments for the years 2001 and 2002, as set out in its resolution 55/5 B of 23 December 2000;

14. *Decides further* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 A (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 13 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 2,773,885 dollars approved for the Mission for the period from 1 January to 31 March 2002;

15. *Emphasizes* that no peacekeeping mission shall be financed by borrowing funds from other active peacekeeping missions;

16. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue to take additional measures to ensure the safety and security of all personnel under the auspices of the United Nations participating in the Mission;

17. *Invites* voluntary contributions to the Mission in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure and practices established by the General Assembly;

18. *Decides* to keep under review during its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo".

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Financing of the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Santiago **Wins** (Uruguay)

I. Introduction

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 19 September 2001, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea" and to allocate it to the Fifth Committee.

2. The Fifth Committee considered the item at its 33rd and 36th meetings, on 7 and 13 December 2001. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/56/SR.33 and 36).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the report of the Secretary-General containing the proposed budget for the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea for the period from 1 July 2001 to 30 June 2002 (A/56/610) and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/56/661).

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.5/56/L.18

4. At the 36th meeting, on 13 December 2001, the representative of Argentina and coordinator of the informal consultations on the item introduced, on behalf of the Chairman, a draft resolution entitled "Financing of the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea" (A/C.5/56/L.18).

5. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/56/L.18 without a vote (see para. 6).

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III. Recommendation of the Fifth Committee

6. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Financing of the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea[1] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2]

Bearing in mind Security Council resolution 1312 (2000) of 31 July 2000, by which the Council established the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea, and the subsequent resolutions by which the Council extended the mandate of the Mission, the latest of which was resolution 1369 (2001) of 14 September 2001,

Recalling its resolution 55/237 of 23 December 2000 on the financing of the Mission and its subsequent resolutions thereon, the latest of which was resolution 55/252 B of 14 June 2001,

Reaffirming the general principles underlying the financing of United Nations peacekeeping operations, as stated in General Assembly resolutions 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, 3101 (XXVIII) of 11 December 1973 and 55/235 of 23 December 2000,

Noting with appreciation that voluntary contributions have been made to the Mission,

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Mission with the necessary financial resources to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

1. *Takes note* of the status of contributions to the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea as at 15 November 2001, including the contributions outstanding in the amount of 100.3 million United States dollars, representing, regrettably, 36 per cent of the total assessed contributions, notes that some 12 per cent of the Member States have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States concerned, in particular those in arrears, to ensure payment of their outstanding assessed contributions;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Member States that have paid their assessed contributions in full and on time and urges all other Member States to make every possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the Mission in full and on time;

3. *Expresses concern* about the financial situation with regard to peacekeeping activities, in particular as regards the reimbursements to troop contributors, which bear additional burdens owing to overdue payments by Member States of their assessments;

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[1] A/56/610.

[2] A/56/661.

4. *Also expresses* concern at the delay experienced by the Secretary-General in deploying and providing adequate resources to some recent peacekeeping missions, in particular those in Africa;

5. *Emphasizes* that all future and existing peacekeeping missions shall be given equal and non-discriminatory treatment in respect of financial and administrative arrangements;

6. *Also emphasizes* that all peacekeeping missions shall be provided with adequate resources for the effective and efficient discharge of their respective mandates;

7. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to make the fullest possible use of facilities and equipment at the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy, in order to minimize the costs of procurement for the Mission;

8. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2] and requests the Secretary-General to ensure full implementation;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the Mission is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

10. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in order to reduce the cost of employing General Service staff, to continue efforts to recruit local staff for the Mission against General Service posts, commensurate with the requirements of the Mission;

11. *Decides* to appropriate the amount of 200,279,308 dollars gross (199,227,505 dollars net) for the maintenance of the Mission for the twelve-month period from 1 July 2001 to 30 June 2002, inclusive of the amount of 1,879,308 dollars gross (1,737,605 dollars net) for the support account for peacekeeping operations, in addition to the amount of 5,444,104 dollars gross (4,777,737 dollars net) already appropriated for the support account for peacekeeping operations and the amount of 568,706 dollars gross (510,695 dollars net) already appropriated for the United Nations Logistics Base by the General Assembly in its resolution 55/252 B, and inclusive of the amount of 90 million dollars gross (88,933,450 dollars net) authorized by the Assembly in resolution 55/252 B;

12. *Also decides*, taking into account the amount of 90 million dollars gross (88,933,450 dollars net) already apportioned for the period from 1 July to 31 December 2001 and the amount of 6,012,810 dollars gross (5,288,432 dollars net) already apportioned for the period from 1 July 2001 to 30 June 2002 in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 55/252 B, to apportion among Member States the amount of 52,412,641 dollars gross (50,567,834 dollars net) for the period from 1 July 2001 to 15 March 2002 in accordance with the levels set out in General Assembly resolution 55/235 of 23 December 2000, as adjusted by its resolution 55/236 of 23 December 2000, and taking into account the scale of assessments for the years 2001 and 2002, as set out in its resolution 55/5 B of 23 December 2000, the scale of assessments for the year 2001 to be applied against a portion thereof, that is, 9,200,000 dollars gross (8,311,500 dollars net) for the period from 1 July to 31 December 2001, and the scale of assessment for the year 2002 to be applied against the balance, that is, 43,212,641 dollars gross (42,256,334 dollars net) for the period from 1 January to 15 March 2002;

13. *Further decides* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 12 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 1,844,807 dollars approved for the Mission for the period from 1 July 2001 to 15 March 2002, 888,500 dollars being the amount pertaining to the period from 1 July to 31 December 2001, and the balance, that is, 956,307 dollars, pertaining to the period from 1 January to 15 March 2002;

14. *Decides* to apportion among Member States the amount of 57,866,667 dollars gross (56,726,221 dollars net) for the period from 16 March to 30 June 2002, at a monthly rate of 16,533,333 dollars gross (16,207,492 dollars net) in accordance with the scheme set out in the present resolution and taking into account the scale of assessments for the year 2002, as set out in its resolution 55/5 B, subject to any decision by the Security Council to extend the mandate of the Mission beyond 15 March 2002;

15. *Also decides* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X), there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 14 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 1,140,446 dollars approved for the Mission for the period from 16 March to 30 June 2002;

16. *Emphasizes* that no peacekeeping mission shall be financed by borrowing funds from other active peacekeeping missions;

17. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue to take additional measures to ensure the safety and security of all personnel under the auspices of the United Nations participating in the Mission;

18. *Invites* voluntary contributions to the Mission in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure and practices established by the General Assembly;

19. *Decides* to keep under review during its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea".